



Rob King on Native Deciduous Trees

April 21, 2018; 10:00
Brandywine Town Center

Rob King will continue our conversation about native trees by demonstrating wiring, spring pruning and repotting using a medium size American Beech, *Fagus grandifolia*, that was collected by Jim Doyle and Walter Pall. At the end of his demonstration, the tree will be raffled off.

April Program: Native Deciduous Trees

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Walter Pall working on a beech that will not be available.

May Program: Round-Robin Boxwood Workshop

This is something Rob saw at another club and said it was fun. We are trying it here for the first time. We will be offering a boxwood workshop to any club member that wants in. For \$10.00 they get a boxwood to work on and use of club wire. Participants will be randomly assigned in groups of 3 to one of our more experienced bonsai member who will lead a mini-workshop. Rob has about a dozen boxwoods that have been grown in the ground and then a couple of years in pots. They have been rough pruned with scissors just enough to let light in.

Members not in the workshops are free to move from group-to- group, tree-to-tree to join in on the discussion, ask questions, etc. Any level of experience is welcome. Having about 12 participants makes the mini-workshops and the discussions really fun. If you want to partake, sign up with Rob at the April meeting or email him at shenking@msn.com.



Mycorrhiza

At our last meeting, Bob Mahler discussed the importance of having a good growth of mycorrhiza amongst the roots of your trees. Mycorrhiza is a mutualistic relationship (one where both organisms benefit) between soil fungi and the roots of plants. The fungus benefits as the plant provides sugars and the plant benefits because the fungus provides both minerals and increases the surface area of the roots allowing for better water uptake.

There are two kinds of mycorrhiza, ectomycorrhiza and endomycorrhiza. The ectomycorrhiza grows on the outside of the roots and can be seen as white fuzz when transplanting your trees – trees include pines, crab apples, and hornbeams. Endomycorrhiza is not seen because the hyphae of the fungus enter the cells of the roots – trees include maples, elms, and junipers. All plants regardless of type have some form of a mycorrhizae relationship with one or more fungi.



I have a commercial mycorrhiza mix that I buy to which I've added local mycorrhiza. I spread my mycorrhiza mix on top of the wet soil after repotting and work it in with a chopstick. Also I put it into my homemade fertilizer balls so that there is a continuous inoculation available all season long. I will have small bags of my mycorrhiza mix available at the April meeting.

- Rob King

Revised Calendar

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES

January 20	Annual Silhouette Discussion - BTC
February 17	Robert Mahler on Pines - BTC
March 17	No Meeting
April 13-15	MidAtlantic Bonsai Festival
April 21	Rob King on Native Trees - BTC
May 19	Boxwood Round-Robin - Anson Nixon Park
June 16	The Kennett Collection
July 21	Picnic/auction – Anson Nixon Park
August 18	Jim Doyle on non-pine, native evergreens
Sept 15	Preparation for Longwood show - BTC
Oct 27-28	Longwood show
Nov 17	End of year "rummage sale" - BTC