



BRANDYWINE BONSAI SOCIETY



Ski Dombrovski on “Unusual Materials for Bonsai”

Brandywine Town Center

Saturday, May 17th, 2014, 10:00 am

Pre-meeting tree counseling will be available, as will coffee

Ski Dombrovski always presents information-packed lectures on various species used for bonsai. He usually asks that members bring in examples from their own collections of the species he will be discussing. This month, the plan is different – but also the same. He will be giving a lecture on materials seldom used for bonsai. Thus he will be talking about more than one species and at present we do not know what they will be. I do presume that these will be from his wonderful collection but we will have to wait and be surprised. As in the past, Ski has requested that members bring in their own trees for the lecture. So what trees do you have in your collection that few or no other members have chosen to cultivate? Surprise us and Ski with your own materials.

Brandywine River Museum Show

Our annual spring show in the courtyard of the Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford is on May 31st and June 1st. We encourage all members to exhibit trees at this low-keyed and friendly venue. Our primary purpose at this, and in all of our shows, is to promote bonsai. We want to have trees from as many of our members as possible, regardless of their skill level, to show the public that bonsai is available and enjoyable on a wide variety of levels. All exhibitors will be encouraged to help with the ‘tree-sitting’ chores, but we also welcome help from those who may not wish to exhibit a tree at this time. We need a minimum of two people for each of the three time slots on each day of the show.

For those bringing trees for the display, setup will start at 7:30am on Saturday and trees should not be removed until 4:30pm on Sunday.

You can send the completed exhibitor/helper form to Greg via email or snail mail, or give it to him at the club meeting on May 17th. All the forms must get to Greg by May 23 to ensure that we have all the correct identification cards for the trees. Thanks in advance for all of your help and support.

Nature’s Way Springtime Event

A number of members usually attend Jim Doyle’s Bonsai Festival and Sale at Nature’s Way Nursery at **1451 Pleasant Hill Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112**. This year, it is on Saturday, May 10 from 9AM to 5PM. There are two special guests on the schedule, Minoru Akiyama and Peter Warren. You can get more information at <http://www.natureswaybonsai.com/>

Minoru Akiyama is a second generation bonsai artist who spent six years with Kunio Kobayashi. He is the youngest ever to win the Prime Minister’s Award. He specializes in Juniper, yew, prunus, azaleas and white pine, but works with all species.

You have seen Peter Warren’s work in numerous Bonsai Focus Magazines. His studies led him to work with some of the greatest bonsai in Japan for over 45 years with Kunio Kobayashi.

Repairing a Rotted Bouganvillea

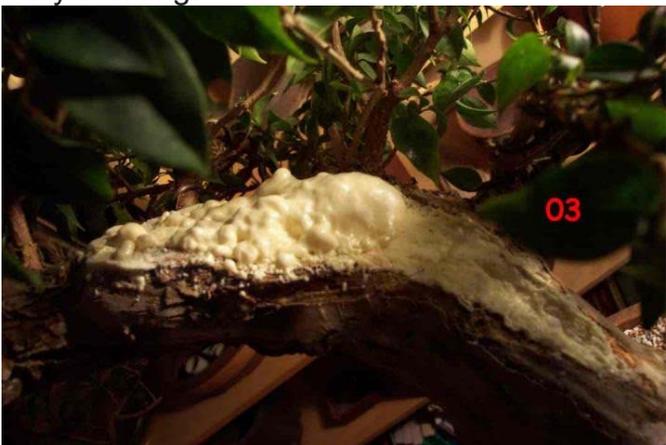
Fred Knobloch provides us with interesting methods for many of the problems encountered in bonsai. In this newsletter, he details the repair of a rotted section of a large bouganvillea with lots of photos along the way.



A rotted 7 in. section was removed and sealed with Minwax wood hardener. The white foam packing pieces were later discarded in favor of a continuous foam plug.



A section of a pigmented plastic store jug was cut to shape, sanded for good paint adhesion and roughly color matched to the bark using acrylic stencil paints. The back was scored for easy bending.



"Great Stuff" foaming caulk was used to fill the cavity and allowed to harden. More was added after this photo.



Foam was shaped; first with a hacksaw blade and then sanded flush with the bark edge.



A ribbon of "Gorillas Glue" was applied around the inner edge of the "plastic bark" and the plastic set in place. Cover with wax paper (not shown), and wrap tightly with shock cord.



After the glue hardens, seal any gaps with additional glue.



Complete the repair with a finish coat of paint. The darker upper trunk above the repair, was wire brushed later, to better match the lighter color of the lower trunk.