Brandywine Bonsai Society

Promoting the art and horticulture of bonsai since 1967

Bonsai Workshop
Anson B. Nixon Park, Kennett Square, PA, Pavilion 1
Saturday, August 20, 2022
10:00 am

August Meeting: Open Workshop
This month we again will be meeting at Pavilion #1 in the Anson B. Nixon Park in Kennett Square, Pa. This is our annual open workshop in which you bring a tree or two and your tools and spend some time with your trees in a fun environment. While you work on your trees, feel free to ask your fellow artists for their opinions, gather a consensus, and then make those changes. The club will not be supplying any food or drinks so you should provide your own.

Directions to Anson B. Nixon Park

For those of you who get into Kennett Square by taking Route US1 southbound, take the Kennett Square exit and drive into town on State Street. Turn right onto Walnut Road, near the bottom of the hill. (The Kennett Square YMCA is opposite.) You will soon see the sign for the Anson B. Nixon Park on the left. Park in the main parking lot.

Members coming through Kennett Square from the opposite direction on Cypress St. can take the first street on the left after the YMCA, drive one block, and cross over State St. onto Walnut Road.

Sept. Meeting: Brooklyn Botanical Gardens Bus Trip
On September 17th we will be taking a bus trip to the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens in Brooklyn, New York. This bus trip has been in the planning since before the pandemic. The bus will leave the BTC promptly at 8:00 a.m. and will return at approximately 5:00 p.m. We will not be using our usual parking lot but instead we will use the empty lot that is across the road.

You will have the full day to explore the gardens on your own. The cost of the bus is covered by the club except for the $5.00 per person fee that we will use to tip the driver. You will have to pay for your own admission (Adults: $18.00/Seniors (65 and up): $12.00). Members of the American Horticultural Society, PA Horticultural Society, plus hundreds of other societies/gardens are admitted free of charge with their membership card (Go to the BBG site and look under “Admissions” and “See Complimentary Admissions Program details” to see the complete listing of societies/gardens). Unfortunately, Logwood Gardens is not part of this program. You can buy a combined ticket if you wish to visit both the Gardens and the art museum located next door – Brooklyn Museum.

You are not allowed to bring food into the Gardens but there are three places that you can buy food - a modern, vegetable-focused cuisine in a full-service setting at Yellow Magnolia Café, casual entrées at the seasonal outdoor eatery Yellow Magnolia Canteen, or sandwiches, snacks, and drinks at the Coffee Bar at the Visitor Center.

The current list of members that are signed up to go is attached. If you are on the list and want to be removed, not on the list and want to be added, or want to change the number of people coming with you, please contact Rob at shenking@msn.com.

2022 Brandywine Bonsai Schedule
The tentative schedule below is subject to changes beyond our control

January 15, 2022	--	Jim Doyle on Literati (ZOOM)
February 19, 2022	--	Winter Silhouette (BTC)
March 19, 2022	--	Marty Schmalenberg (BTC)
April 30, 2022	--	Bob Mahler (Kifu Bonsai)
May 21, 2022	--	Azalea workshop (BTC)
June 18, 2022	--	Marco Invernizzi (Mark Huf’s)
July 16, 2022	--	Auction/Picnic (ABNP)
August 20, 2022	--	Open workshop (ABNP)
September 17, 2022	--	Brooklyn Botanical Garden
October 15, 2022	--	Longwood pre-display (BTC)
November 19, 2022	--	Garage sale (BTC)

Ittel Bonsai Pottery

The website for Ittel Bonsai Pottery, https://ittel.org/, has been updated with lots of new pots and artists. Steve has included both some large new pots and smaller kusamono pots from this year’s firings

Free Classified Ads: We are still carrying your classified ads in the newsletter for free. Are you planning on selling things that will not be included in the silent auction and that you want the club to be aware so they can bring some extra money, are offering some sort of bonsai-related

services, or maybe you are heading to Superfly or Nature's Way and are offering to pick things up for our members. You can send this info to Karin Simmat (ksimmat@verizon.net) for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Next Year's Programs
I know it is only August and next year seems far away but certain programs take a long time to arrange – arranging visiting artists, locating plant material, figuring out venues, etc. This being so, start thinking of some ideas for programs for next year and pass them along to the officers.

Crossing wires when wiring branches - Rob
Recently, I've been doing a lot of wiring. Sometimes it is unavoidable to cross the wires. This is when wiring a branch with two wires and one wire is applied clockwise and the other counterclockwise. We have always been told that this should not be done. I have heard many artists say that if you cross wires, they will cut into the wood quicker. This does not make sense. The wire does not move into the wood; instead, it is the branch that pushes against the wire as it grows. Because of this having the two wires crossed or placed parallel does not affect the pressure applied by the growing branch.

In a workshop with Kathy Shaner, she spoke on this topic and said the same as above but remarked that the trees with crossed wires look sloppy. She continued with no matter what you are doing with your tree, you should do it with pride; therefore, avoid crossed wires. In a recent article in Bonsai Focus, the author said that he uses crossed wires because he feels that the areas where the wires actually cross provide more support when bending the branch. For me, I find the greatest problem is when I just want to remove just one of the two wires. If the wires are crossed, it is very difficult to remove just one because the wire that is on top traps the wire that is underneath. This is avoided if you apply two wires in a parallel fashion.

Club Auction
We would like to thank everybody who made our annual auction/picnic such a success. We had a wide assortment of plant material, books, pots, and miscellaneous Asian items. This event is our biggest money maker for the club and this year we lived up to that tradition. This was due to the generosity of those club members who donated items and those that purchased them. Nothing went unsold. The picnic was great. Bill did his usual great job of arranging for the hoagies and chips, and the members again were generous in providing a wide assortment of salads, drinks, and desserts. Thank you all.

Your editor apologizes that she forgot to take pictures at the club picnic/auction.