

# Brandywine Bonsai Society

Promoting the art and horticulture of bonsai since 1967

## Open Bonsai Workshop Anson B. Nixon Park, Kennett Square, PA, Pavilion 1 Saturday, August 17th, 2024 starts 10 am

**August Cookie Person: Janet Stead**

### August Meeting: Open Bonsai Workshop

This month we 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.

### September Meeting

Bring trees that you might want to display at Longwood Gardens in October. Bring as many as you like. The group will be voting on which will be included in the show.

### Longwood Show (Roberta Carlson)

Our annual Longwood Gardens show is October 2-7 in the Pierce DuPont House. Set up and take down are October 1 and 8 (both Tuesdays). We'll have 32 linear feet of space, two 16-foot lengths. Please bring your possible trees to the September meeting along with accent plants and stands. We'll include as many trees as we can elegantly fit on the tables. Visitors enjoy variety, so let's have deciduous and evergreen, tropical and temperate, singles and forests, and, of course, larger and smaller. You must bring your possibilities to the September meeting because we'll make final selections that day.

For our newest members, the Longwood event is our only public show in 2024. If you don't plan to show a tree, you

can still participate by tree sitting (greeting visitors and answering questions). As show time gets closer, we'll be talking more about this, and I'll send an email explaining it. New members are welcome and encouraged to participate!

### Crown Custom Bonsai/Rob King:

Starting with the August meeting, Crown Custom Bonsai will be able to accept electronic forms of payment (e.g. credit cards, Apple pay, Google pay, PayPal and Venmo).

If there is something in its inventory that you need, please send me (Rob) an email at [crowncustombonsai@hotmail.com](mailto:crowncustombonsai@hotmail.com) containing what you want and I will bring it to the meeting.

### 2024 Brandywine Bonsai Schedule

**August 17:** Open Workshop (ABN Park)

**August 23-24:** Nature's Way Bonsai Summer Sale

**September 21:** Longwood Show Prep (TBD)

**October 2-7:** Longwood Show (LG)

**October 19:** TBD

**November 16:** Business Meeting and Garage Sale (TBD)

BTC = Brandywine Town Center, Wilmington, DE

ABN Park = Anson B Nixon Park, Kennett, PA

Mark Huf's = Huf Landscaping, Oxford, PA

LG HH = Longwood Gardens Headhouse

TBD= to be determined

### Other Bonsai Events of Interest

Friday and Saturday August 23-24 from 9-5. Nature's Way will have a Summer Sale and Swap Meet. Rain or shine. Bring up to 5 trees to sell or swap. The late Ron Bates trees will all be 35% OFF. All Nature's Way Trees will be 20-30% off including tools, pots, books, soils and other sundries. There will be food and snacks throughout this special two day event.

### Opening for Club Treasurer

Greg Kanaskie has been doing a fantastic job for 16 years as club treasurer and is taking a well-deserved retirement. If you are interested, here is what it involves:

The current duties of the BBS treasurer have evolved over time. Obviously whenever money is exchanged the

treasurer is involved. There is online banking with Wells Fargo. The money originates from dues, raffles, silent auctions, the picnic auction (the biggie), and any other transactions.

Currently the treasurer pays bills, including presenters' fees, conducts raffles and itemizes and collects the payment at the picnic auction. The treasurer is also in charge of membership and has developed Excel spreadsheets to keep track electronically and has a backup of the paper registration forms. Name tags are produced by the treasurer. The group email distribution list is also maintained by the treasurer. The treasurer also maintains a relationship with the National Bonsai Foundation.

### **Bonsai Nursery Visit**

On July 27, a small group of us went shopping at Nottingham Bonsai. The weather was perfect, and we left with a car filled with trees. If you'd like to shop there, contact David Owens at [www.nottinghambonsaipa.com](http://www.nottinghambonsaipa.com) or 610-932-8642.

**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 Nature's Way and are offering to pick things up for our members. You can send this info to Karin Simmat ([ksimmat@verizon.net](mailto:ksimmat@verizon.net)) for inclusion in the next newsletter.

### **Share a Tree**

Do you have a tree of which you are particularly proud? Maybe one that is flowering, fruiting or showing brilliant colors or maybe just one that you want to share. Bring it to a meeting regardless the topic of the meeting. We can always carve out five minutes for you to do a show-and-tell with it. It doesn't have to be display ready or a "masterpiece"; just something you would like to share.

### **Suthin Bonsai Tips (Karin Simmat)**

I attended a workshop and several demonstrations by Suthin Sukosolvisit last weekend at Nature's Way Bonsai Nursery and learned so much. Here are a few tips from Suthin:

To rid your plants of wooly aphids, spray them with a solution of 1:10 rubbing alcohol to water. You can also rub rubbing alcohol on isolated aphid spots.

For scale, spray with dormant oil and keep in the shade for a week.

If you have a weak branch where foliage is not looking good, wrap it with a damp cloth.

If the foliage of a conifer is warm it is not a good time to work on it.

Japanese black pines need a lot of water but if the tree is weak, don't water so much and give it more shade.

Suthin also explained the care of the Japanese black pine season by season but this is too complicate to describe here.



Here is my Japanese black pine Suthin worked on. It was originally grown in a soda like bottle by Dave Paris and consequently has always had a long thin trunk. I wanted the trunk squashed.



The tree is in a Bigei dragon pot I purchased on one of my trips to Japan with Bill Valavanis and Kora Dalager. Unfortunately you cannot see the wonderful dragon embossed in the sides of the pot the way I photograph it.

