

The Bergen Bonsai Society

Jul 2016 Newsletter

Meeting: Sun 07/17 9:45 AM— 3 PM

Place: Closter Nature Center
154 Ruchman Rd. Closter, NJ 07624



An educational
non-profit organization

FREE WORKSHOP ON
RE POTING
TROPICALS

The Bergen Bonsai Society
Incorporated
P.O. Box 822
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666
Website: BergenBonsai.com



Year 2016 Programs
Mark Your Calendar

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT AND/OR GUEST ARTIST</u>	<u>AM MTG</u>	<u>AFT MTG</u>	<u>EVE MT G</u>	<u>AWAY MTG</u>
February 21	<u>POT SALE /SWAP MEET— BYOB WORKSHOP</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
March 20	<u>SELECTION OF MABS TREES —BYOB WORKSHOP</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
April 3	<u>GUEST ARTIST— PETER KENIE — GRAFTING WORKSHOP</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
April 15—17	<u>MID-ATLANTIC SPRING FESTIVAL</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>
May 22	<u>GUEST ARTIST — CHASE ROSADE — WORKSHOP</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
June 12	<u>GUEST ARTIST — JOHN ROMANO — SOHIN WORKSHOP</u>	X	<u>X</u>		
July 17	<u>FREE WORKSHOP ON RE POTTING TROPICALS</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
Aug 21	<u>GUEST ARTIST — DAVID PARIS —WORKSHOP</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
Sept 18	<u>ANNUAL PICNIC AUCTION</u>		<u>X</u>		
October ??	<u>GUEST ARTIST — DAVID EASTERBROOK —WORKSHOP</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
November 20	<u>CLUB SHOW; PM OPEN WORKSHOP</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
December 4	<u>ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON</u>		<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>

* Indicates a change in date, event or time, since previous Newsletter

NOTES

1. All meetings @ Closter Nature Center are on Sundays

LAST MONTH MEETING— JUNE 12TH. GUEST ARTIST — JOHN ROMANO— SOHIN WORKSHOP

The group decided that we will do a demonstration in the tent of the Master Gardeners at the Bergen County fall festival. The one last year that we participated in with about 6 of our members was fun but did not produce any new members. Let's hope we have more luck at this one to be held in Van Saun Park in October.

There were 21 of our members who were lucky enough to hear John Romano of Kaikou School of Bonsai share with us some of his knowledge of shohin bonsai. These are trees that are less than eight inches from the top of the pot to the top of the tree. Usually they can be held in one hand. Shohin means "small article" in Japanese.

These trees can be easier to grow and handle but offer the difficulty of needing frequent watering, pruning, misting, and repotting. They are generally considered the bonsai of the people. Often, they are shown in box exhibits, featuring an odd number of trees. For example, there could be six trees presented at different elevations and a seventh on the side of the box. It is customary to arrange the trees so that the top tree is often found in nature in the highlands and the lowest is found in the low lands. For example, the top tree could be Juniper; the middle trees deciduous, and the bottom trees tropical.

John presented a slide show of many shohin bonsai trees from Japan and the US. Ones with the really fat trunks compared to their height are called sumo trees.

John then moved on to work on two trees for demo. One was a hornbeam, somewhat higher than a shohin and the second was a large juniper with many possibilities for design. John did some preliminary pruning and wiring. We then held a raffle. The hornbeam was won by Hank and the Juniper, by Cliff Lee. It was decided that the style of both trees will be left to the winners. A workshop was begun during which Cliff and Hank could work on their trees. Several other members brought in trees that they could work on during the workshop with input from John.

A good time was had by all. - Mitch



THIS MONTH MEETING—JULY 17TH —REPOTING TROPICALS WORKSHOP

Next meeting, is dedicated to Tropicals, some Bonsai, which as they say in the movie, "LIKE IT HOT" (and humid). For plants, like Brazilian Rain Tree, Ficus and a huge host of hot weather material the months of July and August are the time of maximum growth rate and therefore the ideal time for major work including re potting. Established healthy bonsai may be defoliated and root pruned as needed, and major work on more formative trees have a good chance of success as well. We will be working together on trees that members bring in for as long as there is something that needs doing. You need trees, tools, pots, soil (Peter says there will be some), wire and of cause YOU. Our past leader, George LeBolt's special interest was tropicals. He liked that they grow year round and that they tend to be fast growers, so there is always some Bonsai work to do year round. He grew beautiful trees in a heated greenhouse, but that is not necessary. Good conditions for most Ficus can be established under fairly simple fluorescent lighting, even in a basement although a south facing window offering direct sun does wonders. We should all have some tropicals in our collections since they can make fine bonsai. There will be an Ex Board meeting following the workshop, all are welcome to listen in.

NEXT MONTH MEETING— AUGUST 21ST. —GUEST ARTIST— DAVID PARIS

Our June meeting featured John Romano with a very interesting presentation about Shohin bonsai, which are smallish in size (one hand size). David Paris will be taking us still further down the bonsai size scale, to the two finger level, to Mame also known Shito or Keshitsubu. These plants can have very few leaves and need special care, but they are delightful. The program will involve a lecture/discussion and a workshop. Details will be forth coming, but make sure you attend this supper sized, interesting presentation and workshop.



TWO OTHER UP COMING EVENTS

1) Fifth National Bonsai Exhibition

" The highest level bonsai exhibition in America" and its only 6 to 7 hours drive away in Rochester , NY; Sat. -Sept 10 and Sun.-Sept 11.

With over two hundred of the very best American bonsai, this exhibit, demonstration, critic and sales fair is an unbelievable bargain at only \$30 for the two day registration which includes it all. The location in East Rochester is the Total Sports Experience Arena at 435 West Commercial St. There are no sleeping accommodations, so nearby hotels and restaurants must be used. Leaving early evening on Friday and starting the return mid day Sunday, with a two night stay over seems right. We at Bergen are not planning a formal organized trip to this truly remarkable event (with may be the last of its kind) so participating will be up to you as individuals to organize car pools or perhaps rent a passenger van and make your own hotel reservations. I can't attend but I hope many of you do. Check out the web site for all the information.

2) Bergen County Fair

Bergen Bonsai will again be participating in this year's Bergen County Fair on the weekend of Oct 8 & 9. at Van Saun Park in Paramus. This year we are considering accepting an invitation from the Master Gardeners to occupy a single table within their big tent. It would mean a smaller presentation , but an easier one, requiring only 4 to 5 trees.

GOOD AND WELFARE

We are on social media Facebook and Twitter, you can see what is going on with Bergen Bonsai and the Bonsai world. Thanks to Will Farro for setting it up. Bergen Bonsai News, if anyone would like to share some bonsai news, please feel free to drop us an email. We will publish it if it is appropriate.

Email address : BergenBonsai@gmail.com Tel: 201-771-0343

BBS WEBSITE

Go to www.bergenbonsai.com & you can view our newsletters, pictures from our latest meetings, the Mid-Atlantic Convention, our extensive library & much more.

LIBRARY

As usual, the complete library inventory is posted on our website (BergenBonsai.com). Find what you want, contact our librarians (for videos — David; hard cover books — Ralf; Bonsai Today/ Focus — Diann, and Int'l Bonsai, BCL Misc — John), and they will bring it to the next meeting. This is a tremendous asset and one of the best ways to learn more about bonsai in general. The library is a treasure trove of information just waiting to answer all of your questions and some that you haven't even thought about yet. Use these winter months to get answers to the questions that you have about your trees in time for the growing season.

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