

The Buffalo Bonsai Society



March 2010 Newsletter

This month's meeting will be held on
Wednesday March 17th @ 7pm at
Menne Nursery.

3100 Niagara Falls Boulevard
Amherst, NY 14228

The President's Corner

Well, with only one more month of winter, I start yearning for spring and working on my trees. When that time comes, we will be very busy. So, to help satisfy that need and make things easier, when the work hits in spring... now is a good time to prep. Take inventory of what you have in tools. Dan's lecture showed us what we should have in our tool box. Buy, clean and sharpen your tools. Also, see what you have in soil, wire, screening, pots, and chemicals such as neem oil and super thrive and then organize. This will satisfy your need to do something "bonsai" now and make things sooo much easier when you really get into it.

I hope everyone will plan on attending PLANTASIA at the fairgrounds March 25-28. This will also help to spark your dormant bonsai interest. We need people to volunteer to man our booth. Available dates and times are in the newsletter and you can sign up at our March meeting.

Our next meeting will also get us in the spirit, with Dave Paris coming from Rochester to do a lecture/demo on flowering trees.

We would also like to thank Rich Chamberlain for coming out in a snowstorm to give us a very interesting presentation on VIEWING STONES. His display showed us why they are such good companions to our bonsai collections. Not only were the stones amazing, as he described them, but his mastery of carved

stands was apparent in how they complemented the stones.

So, on this wintery day in Western NY, there is much we can do to THINK SPRING AND BONSAI...NOW!

In Memoriam

Donald C. Butterworth

July 28, 1933 - February 27, 2010

We have lost a longtime BBS member, and dedicated friend. He was a former BBS board member, and a member of the Niagara Frontier Koi and Pond Club. He will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege to know him.

Our sympathies go out to Donald's wife Patricia, their two sons Darryl and Jamie, and all of their friends and family.

Plantasia Volunteers Needed!

This year, Plantasia runs from Thursday March 25th through Sunday March 28th at the Hamburg Fairgrounds. Our club plans to have a table there on all four days, but we need your assistance to manage the booth. Please contact Dick Smith or Wendy Williams to volunteer.

Volunteers watch the booth, greet people, answer questions, and sell tickets for the raffle tree. This year's raffle tree is being donated by Hank Miller, and a demonstration by Dan Zak is slated for Saturday at 1pm.

You can bring your trees to work on in case it is slow, or catch up on some bonsai reading. We try to have at least two members at a time working the booth. The time slots shown still need to be filled:

Plantasia Volunteers Needed, cont.**Thursday, March 25**

10 am – 2 pm

1. Ed McKee
2. _____

2 pm – 9 pm

1. Dick Smith
2. _____
3. Rich Groblewski (6pm-9pm)

Friday, March 26

10 am – 2 pm

1. _____
2. _____

2 pm – 9 pm

1. Dick Smith
2. Paul Pearson
3. Rich Groblewski (5pm-9pm)

Saturday, March 27

10 am – 2 pm

1. _____
2. _____

2 pm – 9 pm

1. Dick Smith
2. _____
3. Rich Groblewski (5pm-9pm)

Sunday, March 28

10 am – 2 pm

1. Wendy Williams
2. _____

2 pm – 7 pm

1. Dick Smith
2. Carey Leibring

This Month:**Dave Paris:****Flowering Trees Demo and Talk**

At last month's meeting it was explained that Dave would be doing a lecture and demonstration this month, instead of a workshop. Dave will be sharing his expertise on flowering trees with us. He is very knowledgeable, and has given great lectures in the past. So, if you have interest in training serissa, azalea, crab apple or other flowering trees into bonsai, be sure to catch this month's talk.

Dave is a resident bonsai artist at Hollow Creek Nursery in Lima, New York where he does numerous workshops. He has done several demos and workshops with our club over the years as well, and all have been well received.

Club President, Wendy Williams, is currently working on plans to offer a workshop with Dave later in the year, tentatively the first weekend of June. More details will be provided as they are available.

Upcoming:**Pauline Muth:****Literati Lecture and Demo**

Literati is an unusual bonsai style, which does not conform to the general rules. The trees are characterized by tall, slim, un-tapered trunks in a free-style form. The foliage is usually positioned quite high in the tree. Pines and conifers make good literati, as do gangly trees that do not fit other bonsai styles. In nature, this style will appear where several trees have grown together, and some have died, leaving just a few individuals. The trees will have grown tall in the stiff competition for light.

Pauline Muth is an accomplished bonsai artist and lecturer. She is the owner of pfm bonsai studio in West Charlton, New York. She has been involved with bonsai for over 35 years, and has extensive experience with national and international bonsai organizations. <http://pfmbonsai.com/>

We are bringing her in to share her knowledge with us, so do not miss this opportunity to learn from her!

Last month:**Viewing Stones**

With Rich Chamberlain

Review by Carey Leibring

Unfortunately, last month's meeting occurred during a rather nasty snowstorm. Regardless, several members made it to

Viewing Stones, *cont.*

the meeting. Rich Chamberlain brought an extensive collection of stones and hand-carved stands. There were some beautiful examples of the different classifications of stones, and the individually crafted stands complimented each beautifully.

Many thanks to Rich for coming out on such a night to educate us!



News & member input:

Sowing Seeds

By Wendy Williams

On Thursday March 4th, Ed McKee and I represented our club at a GROW NY Social at the Buffalo Botanical Gardens. There were 15 clubs represented (50 were invited) for this cheese & cracker networking event. Maria Gerbracht (Plant Collection Committee) and Joe DiDomenico (Board Member) from the Botanical Gardens opened the event with background information, the latest happenings and opportunities at the Botanical Gardens. They very much hope to encourage green groups such as

ourselves to make use of the varied spaces at the Botanical Gardens for their own events and workshops.

All of the organizations were then offered an opportunity to speak on behalf of their group, to share what they were all about, where they meet and upcoming events. I began by saying that we realized how much the Botanical Gardens had to offer and were pleased to hold our annual exhibit in that very space and that we maintained a bonsai collection there as well. Along with some humor, I promoted the art of bonsai, what our club has to offer and upcoming displays around the area.

Project coordinator, Sally Cunningham, promoted this summer's Buffalo Garden Walk Festival. I was glad to hear what she had to say and speak with her later, since the Garden Walk had been something we had just discussed the night before at our board meeting. There will be a lot of State funded publicity for this and we could make good use of it for community exposure.

There will be another such social in October and more groups will be encouraged to participate. It is always good to network and that evening sowed some good seeds.

Raffle & Workshop Items

The BBS board is always looking for bonsai trees or related items for the monthly raffles and occasional workshops. We sometimes struggle to find items of interest and value that will raise funds for our club. If you have any unwanted items, or bonsai trees that need a new home, consider donating them to the club.

We would also appreciate information on any resources for inexpensive bonsai

Raffle & Workshop Items, cont.

trees and supplies that the club could purchase for future meetings and workshops.

Keep your Bonsai Society in mind as you head out this spring to shop the nurseries and plant sales...and thanks!

BBS Sourcing Large Trees

A couple of the established members are starting to look for sources for larger, more developed trees to work on. A show of hands was asked for at the January meeting, and about 5-6 people seemed interested in purchasing trees of this caliber. If you missed the meeting, and think that you might be interested in a \$200-\$300 tree in the near future, contact Dan Trzepacz, Dick Smith, or this newsletter.

BBS Newsletter

We are inviting members to send in articles, news bites, and items of interest relating to bonsai for inclusion in the newsletter. Share what you know, or send in a question for the experts if you don't!

2010 Meeting Calendar

March 17: **Flowering Tree Demo** - *Dave Paris*
 April 21: **Lecture & Demo (Literati)** - *Pauline Muth*
 May 19: **Air Layering Demo** - *Dan Trzepacz*
 June 16: **Companion Plants** - *Dick Smith*
 July 17: **Club Picnic @ Vince Phillipone's**
 August 21: **Picnic & Workshop at Hollow Creek**
 September 15: **Lecture on Tropicals** - *Hank Miller*
 October 21: **Annual Club Auction**
 November 17: **Lecture on Penjing** - *Dan T./Vince P.*
 December 8: **Christmas Party**

Workshop with Dave Paris: *Date to be announced*
Plantasia: *March 25-28*
BBS Show at Botanical Gardens: *May 15 & 16*

Refreshments

Many thanks in advance to Mary O'Connor for providing this month's treats!

Thanks also to all of the members that have signed up to do refreshments for the upcoming meetings. If you have volunteered, just bring some snacks to the meeting you signed up for. Be sure to come a few minutes early to help set up. There will usually be a board member available to assist you.

April – Joyce McDougal

May – Alice Healy

June – Marcia Richmond

July – (Club Picnic)

August – (Club Trip)

September – Peter Pasnik

October - ?

November – David Stearns

Thanks for helping out your club!

Don't forget - your club website has a lot of resources for the bonsai enthusiast!

<http://www.buffalobonsaisociety.com>

See you at the meeting, and bring a friend! - Carey