

PUGET SOUND



ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1973

PSBA News Clippings



The President's Desk: Grant Rauzi

July is upon us, and as I write this message we are breaking temperature records going back to the 1940s here in Seattle! This is certainly a challenging period to care for our beloved bonsai and other works-in-progress. Your fellow PSBA members can be good sources of ideas on how to handle the heat, so get the most from your organization by asking questions.

Our annual PSBA **Summer Potluck** is scheduled for **Sunday, July 25**. This is a wonderful gathering that offers camaraderie and time to visit outside our normal general meetings, as well as the opportunity to swap and shop for plants and pots with fellow members. See inside this issue for more details, or contact Elsa Durham with questions.

This Summer, I hope you can reflect on the state of your bonsai collection, your knowledge, and your genuine interest and consider getting INVOLVED. PSBA needs **YOU** – the members, the officers, the potential members out there who have yet to join, and the public who our organization endeavors to educate in the art and culture of bonsai.

My hope is that this issue of *News Clippings* is not just another magazine for you...that it is a celebration of the breadth of activities in our region, and an information source that further enhances your own participation in this art and culture. It is also an **invitation** to become part of a significant group of members whose purpose is to help change ideas on the Art of Bonsai, in part through this newsletter.

- Check out the club out on the Web at www.psba.us. Current and past newsletters are available on that site.
- The auction was a success—save the first weekend in June of 2011 for the next auction.
- Don't forget the PSBA potluck this month—see page 3.
- The Bremerton convention is in September. It's not too late to sign up and get the early prices—type PNBCA into your search engine and get all the details or look for some handouts at the potluck.
- Plan to attend the PSBA September activities—Aki Matsuri and Robert Cho are featured.
- Print out the last page of this newsletter and keep it handy to remind yourself of upcoming events.
- We've printed the minutes of the last PSBA board meeting for your information—it's your club and board members want your input.

The purpose of PSBA, and what membership is all about, is detailed in our by-laws: *“(Its) purpose is the education of its members and the general public in the art and culture of Bonsai. This shall be accomplished by holding meeting for members, sponsorship of lectures, workshops and demonstrations, and holding of public Bonsai shows, exhibitions and other educational activities.”*

If every member sits back, pays his/her dues, and merely reads this newsletter, there will be fewer and fewer readers and eventually no magazine. All magazines need a steadily increasing circulation of readers, which translates in our case to more memberships. How many of your friends have you forwarded this email and/or newsletter to lately? Have you brought a guest to a meeting yet this year?

News Clippings also needs inspired writers:

- We have *beginner*-members who have just discovered bonsai and enthusiastically want to tell about what they have found.
- We have *experienced* members who have special trees with fascinating histories, that would be of great interest to club members.
- And we always have *special interest* notes that everyone wants to see on how to grow successfully, how trees are obtained (seed, cutting or purchase and from where). What kind of soil, sun or shade, indoors or outdoors, fertilizing tips, text accompanied by a picture or two.

Maybe you've attended an event with a different twist that increased your interest in bonsai? Tell us about it! (Contact editors Morgia and Shaun listed on the last page of this newsletter.) This newsletter can be such a valuable addition to our households. Maybe to pass on to a friend!?

Get Involved!

(This message was inspired by notes scribbled by Ray Boardman during the IBC '77 Convention when a BCI member sadly remarked to him "...I wish I had become involved a year or more ago. There is so much just waiting to be accomplished...")

Please remember to save the dates listed on our events calendar at the end of the Clippings newsletter to plan your autumn activities.

Stay cool, and have a great summer!

Grant

POTLUCK AND BAZAAR 2010

PSBA Summer Potluck at the Center for Urban Horticulture, July 25th

1 pm to 5 pm

All members and their families welcome for the fun and fellowship.

Please bring a dish according to name:

A-F:---Appetizers

G-K:---Salad

L-R:---Hot Dish

S-Z:---Dessert

* Be sure to bring serving utensils for your dish and remember to take your dish home when you leave. Plates, utensils and beverages will be provided.

- Appetizers usually served 2 pm.
- Potluck usually starts at 3:30 pm
- Dessert to follow

Bazaar: Come sell or buy trees, pots, tools, books, anything you wish. All money goes to seller. Contact Pat Negron for number of tables you will need.

Raffle: If you wish to donate something for the "raffle" please give to Elsa Durham.

Books from our club's history will be available to look through. Anyone having articles or pictures for the books please give to our historian, Edd Kuehn.

Most important, bring yourself and family and enjoy the activities and company of the other members.

Now is the Time...

By Ken Wassum

Summer's around the corner, right? Well, at least that what we may have been telling ourselves since May! A cold and wet spring and early summer make for confused bonsai, and confused bonsai care.

At a time when trees need more water and fertilizer to grow and get strong, we have had to hold back a little on both. We all know that you can't count on rain to truly "water" your trees, especially those with dense canopies, so we have had to supplement trying to guess the right amount and probably over watering. (This is why the drainage supplied by an inorganic soil mix is essential and makes for healthy roots. And healthy roots make healthy bonsai possible.) Coupled with cold weather, trees just have not been growing like they usually do this time of year. As a result we have had to reduce the amount we fertilize.

So where does that leave us now that the 4th of July is fading in our memories? For starters cutting candles on Japanese black pines should have been done at least one month ago. It is too late to do it now. If you did not cut new candles this year, wait till next year. Spend this year getting the tree strong. In the NW candles on JBP should be cut at the end of May or first week of June. In the South they wait until mid or even late July – but then they have longer summers and warmer weather than we do. Candles I cut in early June are now putting an abundance of new buds. These will open in late July, but will be shorter than the spring growth.

If you have strong trident maples and Japanese maples, they can be partially defoliated and on trees that are strong. But do this only on trees that have developed good branch structure. Defoliation is a refinement technique for finished trees only.

This is a good time to wire, especially juniper. My teacher says, "Wiring should be fun!" After many years of frustrated learning I am beginning to believe him. And a properly wired tree allows you to refine the look of the bonsai. If you wired deciduous trees earlier this spring, it is time to check the wiring and make sure it is not cutting into the branches. If it is or is getting tight, it is time to take it off and rewire.

Finally, let's not forget about bugs. I have an organic vegetable garden and organic flower gardens, but I do not have organic bonsai. With special attention spent on Chinese junipers (Shimpaku and Itoigawa), I spray my trees at least three "cycles" during the spring and summer. A "cycle" consists of three separate spraying that are 7 to 10 days apart. It is best to spray with two or three different sprays. I spray first with Orthene, wait a week and spray with Sevin, wait another week and spray with Orthene again. By alternating pesticides I have a better chance of killing mites and other bad critters that are resistant to one of the sprays. Spraying with pesticides still bothers me, but I do not want to lose a tree that I have worked on for 10 or 15 years --- so I spray.

Having just looked at the weather forecast it says we should be getting weather in the 80's and even 90 degrees. That ought to confuse my trees as much as it confuses me!

PUGET SOUND BONSAI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2010
AT BONSAI NORTHWEST

Officers and directors present: Grant Rauzi, Pat Negron, Kathy Blanchard, Wayne Brewer, Joel Schwarz, Jana Lloyd and Don Guilliams. Absent: Matt Fogata, Scarlet Gore, Edd Kuehn and Elsa Durham. Rauzi said he had e-mail proxies from Fogata and Gore.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved as submitted

Blanchard's treasurer's report showed the club had \$14,496.34 as of May 2, 2010 and the report was accepted by the board.

The board discussed the future of workshop involving David DeGroot, Boon and Michael Hagedorn when they make club presentations since each has on-going regular study groups in the area. No final decision was made on whether or not to offer workshops involving these artists.

Negron said everything is looking good for the spring show on May 16. An inquiry was made by club member David George about selling pots or trees at the spring show was forwarded to Blanchard who said that Seattle Parks Department rules do not allow for private sales at the Japanese Garden Negron reported that DeGroot will talk about displaying bonsai at the June 28 general meeting. Guilliams said he would contact Ryan Neal to be the guest artist at the November annual meeting.

The proposed 2010 budget submitted by Rauzi was discussed by the board. It was moved to eliminate the printing and mailing of November issue of News Clippings to all members with a reminder to pay next year's dues as a cost-savings measure and replace it with a postcard reminder. The motion was approved. The board voted to approve a budget that projected \$9066 in income and \$8391 in expenses. (Note: A later line-by-line review of the budget uncovered some discrepancies).

Under new business, there was a discussion about lowering the costs of the new member workshop and streamlining the workshops to focus on styling, pruning and wiring at these winter/spring programs. Potting should be at a separate follow-up session. Rauzi will contact workshop chairman Greg Hill about these changes.

Negron said chairperson is needed to run the July potluck. The board asked Rauzi to check with membership chairperson Carol Sangster about the delay in printing the club roster and to have it ready for distribution at the May general meeting. There was a brief discussion on replacing Fogata on the board if he moves to Arizona. No decision was made.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by
Joel Schwarz
Secretary

David DeGroot's Program on Bonsai Display

At our June PSBA meeting David DeGroot and his study group put on the evening's program. They supplied several kinds of trees and stands as well as stones and companion plants. David had several large tables and screen backgrounds that were used to set up several displays. David showed slides from Japanese shows as well as from some shows at the Pacific Rim Collection and he talked about the principles of displaying bonsai—appropriate to times of year, to plant choices, and to scroll choices. Here are some pictures from the evening's program. One picture is of a display that features a cascade juniper and another of a white pine on display. Thanks, David, for an interesting and educational evening.



Puget Sound Bonsai Association

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Sunday, July 25 1 p.m.—5 p.m.	PSBA Annual Potluck, Center for Urban Horticulture
September 11 10 a.m.—6 p.m. September 12 10 a.m.—4:30 p.m.	Aki Matsuri Festival Bellevue College
.September 17-19	PNCBA Convention Bremerton
Monday, September 27 7 p.m.—10 p.m.	PSBA General Meeting Robert Cho Video on China, Penjing planting on marble
Monday, October 25 7 p.m.—10 p.m.	PSBA General Meeting Bonsai Boone
Monday, November 22 7 p.m.—10 p.m.	PSBA General Meeting Ryan Neil Demonstration and raffle of tree. Workshop to be held. See Wayne at potluck to sign up

