



- Remember you can check the club out on the Web at www.psba.us. There is information there about speakers and club doings as well as directions to the Center for Urban Horticulture. You can also print out a map to CUH from that same site.
- There will be a June 23rd regular meeting. It looks like with the earthquake and floods in China that the demonstrator won't get his visa in time to be here. Watch for an email update.
- Watch your mailbox in July for a reminder about the potluck and PSBA's 35th anniversary.
- Many thanks to Kathy Blanchard and the Seattle Japanese Gardens for the chance to show off our club's spring bonsai show.
- The summer months are almost upon us and we meet only in June and July. The potluck reminder will come in July and there is no newsletter in August.
- Look for a **PSBA News Clippings** in your email box come the beginning of September!

PSBA News Clippings



~Puget Sound Bonsai Association~

June, 2008

P.O. Box 15437, Seattle, WA 98115-0437

—Volume 35—Number 5—

From the President's Desk by Matt Fogata...

Did we have spring? In the middle of May it looked and felt like summer. However, now that it is the first of June it feels like we're back to winter. The snow level is back down in the 4000 foot range and the weatherman is predicting 2 inches of snow in some of the mountain passes. I know the weather has played an important role in confusing our bonsai trees and ourselves. Let's hope for the best!

Our spring show was blessed with sunny weather this year. A thank you to all who pitched in and helped make the show a success: Alice Chen, Kathy Blanchard (and her husband Mark), Jana Loyd, Pat Negron, Ruth Fogata, Edd Kuehn, Grant Rauzi — all helped set up and get the show arranged for viewing. Our thanks also go out to Kitty and Glenn Gardner, Carol Sangster, Joel Schwarz, Pat Negron, Alice Chen, Ruth Fogata, Edd Kuehn, Jana Loyd, Wayne Brewer, Blanche Bollart, Joel Schwarz, and Kathy Blanchard for being there to greet guests and act as docents. We also thank Jaimie Wright for his help in delivering the materials for setting up the name display as well as Morgia Belcher for checking trees in. As with any show we needed help taking the show down: thanks to Alice Chen, Carol Sangster, Dave George, Edd Kuehn (and his son), Kathy Blanchard, Pat Negron, Ruth Fogata, and Tim (editor did not receive a last name). A special thanks to Carlos Marentes, a new member who joined PSBA that morning and who stayed the entire day helping out wherever needed. This was Grant Rauzi's first official duty as vice president and he deserves our thanks for a job well done.

I would like to thank Jane Nelson for her donation of bonsai books to PSBA—as always Jane is a big supporter of PSBA! Thanks! I would also like to thank Margaret Holton who donated the proceeds from her tree that was auctioned off at our annual spring auction.

June 23rd we have our regular PSBA meeting at CUH. We just don't know what the program will be. Check your email

Our annual potluck is July 27th from 1-5pm at CUH.

The Aki Matsuri Festival is September 13-14 at the Bellevue Community College.

Our PNBCA convention is September 18-21 in Spokane, WA.

As I finish this I would like to wish a belated Happy Mothers' Day to all the moms in PSBA and an upcoming Happy Fathers' Day to all the dads in PSBA.

The thought for the month: "Not everything that counts can be counted; and not everything that can be counted, counts." — Albert Einstein

PNBCA CONVENTION 2008

Each year the Pacific Northwest Bonsai Clubs Association sponsors a convention somewhere in the northwest. This year for the first time the convention will be held in Spokane, Washington. This is the 19th convention and the theme this year is "Connected Roots". The convention begins Thursday evening September 18th at the Red Lion Inn at the Park. It concludes with the noon meal on Sunday the 21st. All clubs who have members attending the convention get a share of the proceeds from the convention. We encourage everyone to consider attending—it is a great chance to meet others interested in bonsai and share good learning opportunities, good food, and good fellowship with other bonsai enthusiasts. Featured artists are: Kathy Shaner, Walter Pall, Dennis Makishima, David Rowe, and Jerry Meislik. There is a link to the convention web site on our www.psba.us web site. You will find complete registration information there as well as contact information.

Some Food For Thought...

Reprinted from the Corvallis Bonsai Society

In order to grow, trees use carbon, hydrogen and oxygen from the air, and water from the soil to manufacture their own starch and sugars. They also need from the soil a number of simple chemicals which they then use to create amino acids, proteins, vitamins, and enzymes. All organic soils have a stock of these vital chemicals; they come from the mineral part of the soil (sands/clays, etc) and from dead organic matter (fallen leaves and dead plant matter). However, in the confines of a bonsai pot these vital elements are soon lost. Inorganic soils such as Japanese clays (Akadama etc) and Seramis or Biosorb which are commonly used in bonsai soil mixes can be completely lacking in one or more of these elements even before use.

The most serious loss concerns three elements: nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium. These are known as the major plant nutrients and are required in relatively large amounts if plants are to grow satisfactorily. There are a further number of 'trace elements' that are required to be present in the soil but only in small quantities.

(continued on page 3)

Nitrogen (N) is primarily used by plants for leaf growth. Phosphorous in the form of Phosphates (P205) is primarily used by plants for root-growth. Potassium in the form of Potash (K20) for flower and fruit production.

To supply your bonsai with a continual supply of essential plant nutrients it is necessary to regularly apply fertilizer. There is NO need to purchase 'bonsai food' or any other special bonsai fertilizer. Essentially ordinary plants, bonsai are more than able to cope with ordinary soluble garden fertilizers. It is far more important that a fertilizer with the correct nutritional balance be chosen.

Things To Do Besides Water, Trim and Fertilize...

June 14-15, 2008 — Denver, Colorado

The largest show of native and exotic bonsai in Colorado is held annually at the Denver Botanic Gardens on Father's Day weekend inside the main building. Live demonstrations, raffle, and vendor sales are held. There are many wonderful and amazing bonsai on display. Tour the gardens and visit the Japanese Gardens to make this a fun outing for everyone. The display is free with your Denver Botanic Garden Admission. Hours are 9-5. 1005 York Street, Denver, Colorado.

June 19-22, 2008 — San Antonio, Texas

The American Bonsai Society sponsors "The Many Faces of Bonsai in Texas". This will be held at the El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio, Texas. It features Guy Guidry, Mike Hansen, Hal Mahoney, Ted Matson, Jerry Meislik, Michel Phaneuf, Martin Schmalenberg, Sean Smith, and Ed Trout.

September 4-7, 2008 — Rochester, New York

International Bonsai Symposium presents a study of deciduous bonsai with an emphasis on maples. Featured artists are: Peter Adams, David Easterbrook, Arthur Joura, Brussel Martin, Matt Ouwinga, Suthin Sukolosvist, and William Valavanis. It will be held at the Holiday Inn at 911 Brooks Avenue, Rochester, NY.

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The PSBA News Clippings
Is published nine times each year by the
Puget Sound Bonsai Association: P.O.
Box 15437, Seattle, WA 98115-0437.
The newsletter is published in order to
share general information about bonsai
techniques, events, and other items of
interest to members. It is provided free of
charge to our members. Hard copies are
mailed once or twice a year to all
members. Members with e-mail addresses
will get all others via e-mail. Members
without e-mail may pick up hard copies at
meetings. If you are not receiving e-mail
copies, please contact Carol Sangster at
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directed to the editor. Permission to
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Calendar of Events:

- June 23: PSBA meeting—program to be announced—
at the Center for Urban Horticulture
- July 27 1-5 pm—Potluck at CUH
PSBA celebrates 35 years!
- August No meeting—no newsletter
- September 18-21 PNBCA Convention in Spokane
- September 22 PSBA meeting—program to be announced

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