

PUGET SOUND



ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1973

PSBA New Clippings



The President's Desk: Grant Rauzi

Welcome Spring!

Ah, the days are getting longer and we now have the daylight to enjoy our collections. Then again, maybe the longer days encourage things to get out of control a bit. Puget Sound Bonsai Association is one of the older clubs in the United States...so reach out to your co-members for their experience and advice to manage your trees at this exciting time of year.

Our last general meeting on April 26 featured **guest artist Michael Hagedorn** from Portland, Oregon. [Http://crataegus.wordpress.com](http://crataegus.wordpress.com) After leading a great workshop on the premises of Bonsai Northwest Nursery in Tukwila for club members during the day, Michael proceeded to give a demonstration and lecture at our evening meeting. His talk focused on broom-style deciduous trees and was attended by over seventy club members and guests.

Have you spread the word? The **Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection** in Federal Way, WA, which has been closed to the public since spring of 2009, will be open on Mother's Day Weekend, May 7-12, in conjunction with the Buds & Blooms Spring Garden Festival. For more information see www.visitfw.org, or call 253-924-5206.

- Remember you can check the club out on the Web at www.pgba.us. Current and past newsletters are available on that site.
- It's our spring PSBA show time. See the "Now Is The Time" article on page 3 and some instructions on page 4.
- Plan now to attend our annual bonsai auction to be held the first Saturday in June (June 5th) at Weyerhaeuser's campus in Federal Way. See page 4 for details.
- Plan now to attend the 2010 PNBCA convention to be held in Bremerton. See page 5 for details.
- Don't forget to see the Pacific Rim collection from May 7th-12th.
- Our June 28th meeting will feature David DeGroot's program on the proper way to display and show bonsai trees. There will be no workshop that day—just the evening meeting at CUH.

Our next big club event is the **Annual Spring Show** at the Japanese Garden in the Seattle Arboretum on May 16 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. This is an annual exhibit that draws from the bonsai collections of club members. The outdoor venue in the surroundings of the Japanese Garden is a day we all look forward to and enjoy. Features will include outdoor table displays, a Mame display under the tent covers, demonstrations by senior club mentors, and a plant sale. Members all: bring a tree, bring a Mame, bring a donation for the plant sale, and most of all, bring yourselves and your friends and have a fun day in the Arboretum! Please contact coordinator **Pat Negron** (p.negron@earthlink.net) if you are interested in helping with the show in this truly beautiful place and surroundings.

Reminder: Puget Sound Bonsai Association proudly presents its **2010 Annual Bonsai Auction**, June 5 from 1-4 p.m., to be held on the grounds of the Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection. We now have over eighty trees to be auctioned and parking is free! We will have an emphasis on collected trees this year. Even TV and radio personality Cisco will be mentioning our event on his show! www.psba.us or contact chair **Don Guilliams** for more information. Make Don a happy man and bring lots of money!

Have you marked your calendar? Puget Sound Bonsai Association will host the 2011 regional convention Labor Day weekend 2011 at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel in Seattle. WOW! The convention committee has developed a really great venue and workshops based on regional material representing the complete geography of the Pacific Northwest, including: lodge pole pine, mountain hemlock from Vancouver and collected redwood from California. More to come...

Enjoy our beautiful spring days and I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Show!

Grant

Note from Joel Schwarz, PSBA Secretary: The board has approved a recommendation to change PSBA's policy of mailing the November issue of News Clippings to all members with a membership renewal form and return envelope for the following year's club dues. Renewal forms will be available at the November general meeting and on the club's website. This action was taken as a money-saving measure to help balance PSBA's budget, which was approved at the May board meeting.

NOW IS The Time...

By Glenn Gardner

Now is the time--to prepare your bonsai for the myriad opportunities to exhibit them to the public. These activities accelerate during the spring and summer when the trees are at their best. This is not to say that your plants are not continuously ready to exhibit, but that little bit of extra care as we go along will make the experience of showing them more fun and uplifting. These shows are the major opportunity for the PSBA to meet the public and promote the personal satisfaction gained from an interest in, and the practice of maintaining and growing Bonsai.

These opportunities must not be treated lightly by showing trees that are not up to par; however, we cannot let these opportunities pass without an effort being made to at least get our trees ready if even if it only turns out to be practice. Inspect the plant for insects, especially scale, aphids and spider mites. I once went to an exhibit of bonsai and found one maple that didn't look exactly right. Upon closer inspection it was literally loaded with aphids. I quietly informed the owner of my discovery and the plant was spirited away. Pull the weeds out of the container. Also remove any unsightly moss, twigs, debris, or stones from the soil, container, and plant. Moss on branches or trunks can be removed with a toothbrush or small brass brush by moving the brush with the grain of the bark. Brushing across the grain tends to loosen and break the bark. Removing the white deposit left on the container by evaporating water requires some elbow grease. First, scrape the white material away with a single edged razor blade, scalpel, or exacto knife. Do not hold the blade vertical to the surface where you see the white deposit. Hold it so the edge of the blade is nearly parallel to the surface of the container. Move the blade as if trying to get under the deposit thus removing the discoloration. When as much of the deposit is removed as possible, dip a wet cloth in sand and scrub the surfaces affected. Wash the surface and wipe dry. Apply a light coating of camellia oil or other light vegetable oil with a clean cloth, and wipe off excess oil. The oil should not alter or modify in any way, the color or texture of the container. Check the wiring for loose wires or for wires that are cutting into the branches. Generally I like to show my plants without wire, but if there is wire on the plant it should be an example of the most excellent wiring ability available. In other words it should be perfect. Smooth the surface of the soil if appropriate. Add top soil if appropriate to match the design of the tree. Trim the moss. Manicure the moss with scissors to remove all seed pods, shoots and overgrown areas to give it the appearance of a freshly mowed lawn or use this technique to create hills, valleys, and hummocks. I know of no standards for this so you can let your imagination and creativity go. Remove dead branches and dead leaves unless of course they are a part of the design of the tree. They should be well placed and be finished so as to enhance the style of the tree. Prepare label information giving the name of the species, age, style, and time in training. If directed to give your plant information to the show chair so that uniform labels can be prepared.

Consider attending the PNBCA Bonsai Convention in Bremerton in September of this year. This is one time of the year when special effort is put forth to provide learning opportunities and material for bonsai collectors. There will be vendors with pre-bonsai material and bonsai for the astute collector. Tools, soil, fertilizer and books will be available. The speakers and teachers for this convention include Dan Robinson, Kathy Shaner, David DeGroot, Michael Hagedorn, John Conn and Ann Spencer. All are well known and esteemed bonsai practitioners. The convention will be in the Bremerton Convention Center. You will have a chance to attend a fine showing of bonsai. As you leave the convention, swing by Elandan Gardens in Gorst for a treat in bonsai viewing and a chance to do some fine shopping in Diane's gift shop.

PSBA's Annual Spring Show

Our spring show is almost upon us. The show is Sunday, May 16th, from 10 am to 5 pm at the Japanese Garden in the Arboretum. If you plan to show a tree or trees, please contact Vice President Pat Negron at p.negron@earthlink.net or give her a call at 206.522.4092. She needs the types and sizes of the tree(s) for labels. Also you should bring a list of the tree(s) and any stands or companion plants you plan to show. We will be setting up starting at 8 am that day. This offers us a great opportunity to expose the public to bonsai but it requires work and many hands to make it happen. Please see the "Now is the Time" article for tips on preparing your tree(s) for show.

PSBA Auction 2010

On Saturday, June 5th, PSBA will hold its 5th Annual Auction from 12pm to 4:30 pm in the courtyard of Weyerhaeuser's Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection. David DeGroot has graciously offered the facilities to us. The Auction will feature—live auctions, a silent auction, critiques of auctioned trees, a bonsai demonstration and a free buffet.

Our professional auctioneer, Steve Hardy, will return and will be assisted by Ken Wassum. Dan Robinson, our past auctioneer, will give a professional critique of the 65 trees in the auction from 12pm to 1 pm.

Glenn and Kitty Gardner will again oversee the silent auction, and Wayne Brewer will style a tree in the demonstration area from 12pm to 1 pm. This tree will then be offered in the live auction. If you have items for the silent auction please contact Glenn or Kitty at kgsiamese@aol.com or call them at 425.222.3583. They need information ahead of time.

This event has gained in popularity every year and is one of the highlights of our PSBA year. Please plan to attend this festive event and spend a fun afternoon with your friends, fellow club members, and members of the general public who will attend this event.

Leave your credit cards at home and bring your wallet with plenty of cash!

David DeGroot Will Speak June 28th

PSBA is pleased to have David speak to our members at our June meeting. He will give a program on the proper way to display and show bonsai trees. Included in the program will be a discussion about using proper companion plants along with the appropriate bonsai trees. Watch for more information in your June newsletter.

Weyerhaeuser to Open Bonsai Collection

— Six Days Only —

The Weyerhaeuser Company's Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection is pleased to announce the re-opening for 6 days only this May. It will be open to the public during the Federal Way Buds and Blooms spring garden festival over Mother's Day weekend (May 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th). Visitors can once again enjoy the collection's world class bonsai and some special demonstrations. Come out and let Weyerhaeuser know how much PSBA members appreciate the collection. At the same time enjoy bonsai in a beautiful woodland setting.

During the six day opening, the hours will be 10AM—4PM, except on Saturday and Sunday when the hours are 10AM—5PM, the festival days. Other venues that will participate are the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, the West Hylebos Wetland Park, and PowellsWood Garden.

PNBCA Convention 2010

This year the Evergreen Bonsai Club will host the PNBCA convention at the Bremerton Convention Center on September 17, 18, and 19th. Workshops will be conducted by John Conn, David DeGroot, Michael Hagedorn, Kathy Shaner, and Anne Spencer. Convention prices, hotel arrangements, and a convention schedule are available by going to the website for the Evergreen Bonsai Club of Bremerton. *Remember that a portion of convention profits come back to each club based on how many club members attend the convention.* Plan now to attend!

Puget Sound Bonsai Association

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Mother's Day weekend May 7-12th	Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection open to public as part of Buds and Blossoms Festival in Federal Way
Sunday, May 16 10 a.m.—5 p.m.	PSBA Spring Show Japanese Gardens, Seattle Arboretum
Saturday, June 5 1 p.m.—4 p.m.	PSBA Annual Auction Pacific Rim, Weyerhaeuser campus, Federal Way
Monday, June 28 7 p.m.—10 p.m.	PSBA meeting at Center for Urban Horticulture
Sunday, July 25 1 p.m.—5 p.m.	PSBA Annual Potluck, Center for Urban Horticulture
Saturday, Sunday September 11-12	Aki Matsuri Festival, Bellevue College, Bellevue
September 17-19	PNBCA Convention, Bremerton

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