

PUGET SOUND



ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1973

PSBA News Clippings



The President's Desk: Grant Rauzi

Greetings ,

Bringing in new members is every member's responsibility.

Don't take me wrong, this is not to put a burden on you, or give you a "job". Please step back and think about the great times you have enjoyed as a result of your membership in the Puget Sound Bonsai Association and your hobby, interest and commitment to the art and culture of bonsai.

- Opportunities to learn more about the art and culture of bonsai by attending General Meetings 6 times/year with presentations by world-renowned guest artists, and best practice sharing by our own experienced members in attendance.

- You are living in one of the best regions in the world to practice your interest in bonsai and you have a myriad of resources and support locally via your club connections.

- You have proximity and opportunity to donate time at one of the premier bonsai collections in the world: the Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection at Weyerhaeuser in Federal Way.

- Don't forget our associations with the Seattle Arboretum Japanese Garden, Kubota Gardens and other regional attractions.

- You enjoy the camaraderie that PSBA membership brings; stopping at various workshops and demonstrations, and we share reciprocity throughout the northwest and world when we travel.

- We sponsor social events like the upcoming Annual July Picnic in Seattle, and new member support via our New Member Workshops in Spring and Fall. There are many other opportunities that await your bonsai-interested friends who are not yet members of our PSBA organization.

- Check out the club on the Web at www.psba.us. Current and past newsletters are available on that site.
- Plan to come to the Ryan Neil demo on June 27th at 7 pm at the Center for Urban Horticulture.
- Also on June 27th there will be two Ryan Neil workshops at Bonsai Northwest—one from 8 am to noon and a second workshop from 1 pm to 5 pm. **There is one opening in the morning workshop and one in the afternoon: see or call Pat Negron (pnegron@earthlink.net) if you are interested in being in one of the workshops—cost is \$50. Observers are welcome at either workshop for a \$5 fee.**
- Put July 24th on your calendars: our PSBA Potluck will be at CUH from 1pm to 5 pm. See page 5.
- In the fall: September 26th—Peter Adams is our demo artist at 7 pm. October 24th—David DeGroot will revisit azalea care. November 28th is our annual PSBA business meeting with a Dan Robinson demonstration.

(continued from page 1)

When your friends and acquaintances express an interest in our organization – or even just reach out to you for some help and advice – bring them to the next General Meeting or club sponsored event! Keep your club roster handy and reach out to other members for referral. Pick up several copies of our PSBA Brochure at the next General Meeting to keep on hand and give to interested people you meet. The Brochure provides a concise overview of the club in a tri-fold presentation. It provides information on joining fees and provides an opportunity to contact members who can answer questions.

If you want to sponsor a new member be sure to contact Carol Sangster our Membership Chair (she is also heavily involved in Convention planning and registration) to get your new member on board. Carol is a wealth of knowledge and has been handling membership ever since the passing of John Lust several years ago – thanks for all you do Carol. Then your friend will be part of our PSBA network, which as we all know is the finest in the Northwest J!

A thought to keep in mind, with all the wonderful climate of the summer approaching:

May your trees grow

From strength and good health

To beauty and visual joy.

-from Descanso Bonsai Society

as quoted in Bonsai, June, 1978. Vol. xvii No. 5

Final note:

Monday, June 27th is our final General Meeting before summer. Don't forget we have an awesome presentation for the evening as well: we are hosting internationally known guest artist Ryan Neil. Plan to attend and bring a friend and enjoy a great evening with an outstanding and world class bonsai arti

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Convention in September!

Grant

An Update on PNBCA Convention XXII

Behind the Scenes at the Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection:

On Friday afternoon, September 2, from 1-2:30 pm, you can enjoy a free tour of the Pacific Rim Collection in Federal Way, including both the public display as well as areas most visitors never see—the growing area, working greenhouses, potting shed—even storage areas. You will see all the systems and equipment. Curator Dave DeGroot will describe how the trees are cared for as well as how the facility is operated. If you've ever been curious as to what it takes to maintain one of North America's leading public bonsai displays, this tour will provide a rare opportunity to find out. For more information you can call 253-924-5206 or email david.degroot@weyerhaeuser.com. In some publications this tour was listed as a post-convention activity but due to a recent change in schedule this event is now a Pre-Convention event.

Sunset Cruise & Dinner at Tillicum Village Island:

On Friday evening, September 2 from 6-9 PM, enjoy a cruise from Seattle's waterfront harbor for a NW dinner and entertainment at Tillicum Village. There was a recent article about Argosy Cruises revival and update to this NW activity. You need to make a separate reservation by contacting Peter Robinson at 206-676-3145.

Registration Notes:

At the June 4th PSBA auction an early registrant's name was drawn to receive a \$245 raffle prize offered by the Connie Raphael study group. The winner had to be registered for the convention by June 4th. John Kittel from the Inland Empire Bonsai Club was chosen by our auction host, Dave DeGroot. Congratulations to John!

This is to remind everyone that the 2011 registration fee goes up after July 1st. The convention will feature collected workshop material from Vancouver Island and Northern California. If you wish to register for the convention go to this site: <http://pnbca.com/PNBCA2011.htm> - Complete details are available there.

PSBA Holds Its Annual Show—Come Rain or Shine!

On a rainy Sunday, May 15th, PSBA held its annual spring show at the Seattle Japanese Gardens. We had many trees, some intrepid visitors, and some interesting viewing stones as well as rain. It was a good thing we had some covering tents! Ruth Chaus took some pictures to remember this year's show by:



POTLUCK AND BAZAAR
 Sunday July 24th, 2011---1pm to 5pm
 Center for Urban Horticulture

All PSBA members and their families are welcome for fun and fellowship! The potluck is always a great opportunity to enjoy the company of other members in an informal setting. Remember to wear your name badge!

Activities - 1:00 PM

Bazaar: Sell your unwanted trees, pots, tools, books, and keep 100% of the proceeds. Or, find what you're looking for, at great prices!

Sellers, please contact Pat Negron for number of tables you will need.

Study group hookup: Most study groups are welcoming new members. Meeting locations include Pierce County, Gig Harbor, South End, Beacon Hill, Sammamish Plateau, Shoreline, and Mount Vernon. Why not take this opportunity to join a study group and get more involved?

Raffle: Always a favorite. Win a project to work on over the summer!

Shohin and mame: Enjoy a display of mini trees, courtesy Edd Kuehn.

Club history: Edd Kuehn, Club Historian will bring the history books for your enjoyment. Please feel free to bring any articles or pictures to be added to the books.

Convention signup: Time is getting short! Take this opportunity to sign up for the convention in Seattle over Labor Day weekend.

Potluck – 2:00 PM

Appetizers at 2:00 PM

Potluck at 2:30 PM

Dessert to follow

Please bring a dish according to last name:

A-F:--- Dessert

G-K:---Appetizers

L-R:—Salad

S-Z:—Hot Dish

Please deliver your food contribution no later than 1:30 PM. Plates, utensils and beverages will be provided. **Be sure to bring serving utensils for your dish and remember to take your belongings when you leave.**

Help wanted

Do you have an item to donate to the raffle? Contact Helen Wattlely-Ames: 206.783.9445

Can you assist in receiving and organizing the food? Contact Jeannine Rakos: 253.249.1270

Now is the Time....

By Ken Wassum

Right now your bonsai are probably (hopefully!) growing vigorously. This is because most trees are programmed to do just that – grow in spring and early summer. Some trees get only one spurt of growth a year, while others get a second spurt. When I first came to bonsai in the mid-90's I kept hearing about the importance of pinching. Pinch your junipers --- pinch your spruce ---- pinch your larch.

Well, I have since learned, one could say the hard way, but also from good instruction, that pinching is NOT a good idea. The theory behind pinching is that it would keep new growth shorter and generate back budding. Not quite true. What it does do is make trees that are in development (which are the vast majority of trees in the NW) weak.

When your trees begin to put out new growth, this stimulates healthy root development. We sometimes forget there is a connection between needles, leaves, and roots. Better root development means you have a stronger tree. So instead of pinching, let your trees grow in the spring. Let them get strong. Then, later in the year, you can cut back. This holds just as true for Junipers, Larch and Spruce as it does for Maples, Crab Apples, and Elms. Very refined trees can receive more detailed care (more about that in a future article), but we have very few highly refined trees in the U.S.

Here is an example. For my crab apples in development, I let the leaves form and around early June I wire them. This way I avoid the push of growth in April and May that causes wire scars. Then I let the branches grow and extend. I watch the wires and *try* to avoid scarring the branches..... Then I remove the wire, and cut the branches back, and rewire again. I repeat that process 2 or 3 times during the year. This does a couple things. My trees stay strong and I am able to put good movement to the branches. And crab apples without curve to the branches will never be good bonsai.

Now, I would like to add a little about fertilizing. Aside from very healthy Japanese Black Pines that have their candles removed and need to be fed strongly early in the year, spring is the wrong time to aggressively feed most trees. When bonsai are actively growing, fertilizing will cause leggy growth and long internodes (space between branches or leaves). Needles on pines that are not candle-pruned (like White Pines and Ponderosa Pines) will get too long if they receive more than very small amounts of fertilizer. Leaves will be too large on deciduous trees if fertilized before the leaves harden off. So next year, try waiting and begin your fertilizing in July.

If you are using cakes, try adding a couple and then a couple more the next week. After a month, remove the old cakes and apply new ones. If using a fertilizer mixed with water, do not use it full strength. It is better to fertilize frequently rather than a lot all at once. As late summer and early fall arrive I begin feeding some of my trees more strongly, such as Mountain Hemlocks, Spruce, some pines, and Larch. This helps them set lots of buds during the winter for the next spring.

Now is the time for a happy summer!

An Invitation from Oregon

The 2011 Multi-Club Oregon Potluck for bonsai enthusiasts will be held July 9th and will be held at Wee Tree Farm in Philomath, Oregon. Come anytime after 10 am and bring a dish to share, your own place setting, a tree for the TOP 20 BEST OF THE WORST/BEST CONTEST. Be prepared to have some fun! We'll eat around noon, then you are free to enjoy the contest, walk down to the river, shop, or just sit and chat. The Corvallis Bonsai Society will provide coffee and cold refreshments. We should have plenty of chairs, but if you have a favorite and want to haul it, please do.

If you need directions please contact Diane Lund:

Wee Tree Farm

PO Box 340

Philomath, OR 97370

541-929-9520

800-638-1098

diane@weetree.com

PSBA's Auction VI

Our sixth PSBA auction was held June 4 at the Pacific Rim Collection and it was an unqualified success as well as being a crowd pleasing event. Held under sunny skies, the auction earned about \$2500 for our club's treasury. The auction has succeeded in becoming a Pacific NW event; club members and members of the public came from all over Oregon and Washington. Auctioneers Steve Hardy and Dan Robinson sold 72 trees to about 120 attendees. Ken Wassum was informative in his critique of the trees and John Conn styled a beautiful mountain hemlock which was auctioned later. Pat Negrón and Kathy Blanchard, assisted by their crews, handled the business aspects to a successful conclusion of the auctions (both silent and vocal). If you missed this year's auction, be sure to save the first Saturday of June 2012 for next year's auction.

At our June 27th club meeting, PSBA treasurer, Kathy Blanchard, will have checks available to people who sold trees. You can pick up your check at the registration table. If you are unable to be at the meeting she will mail checks to those people in the days after the meeting.

More Sad News...

Another PSBA member died recently. Florence Lundquist was a long time member and supporter of bonsai. Born in Seattle in 1920, she graduated from Seattle's Broadway high school and was active in their alumni association as well as in the Seattle First Baptist church and several Swedish groups. She retired from the Perkins Cole law firm. We will miss her. A photo of Florence is printed in the Seattle Times obituary which you can access online.

PSBA Will Return to the 2012 Seattle Flower & Garden Show

After taking a breather in 2011, PSBA will participate in the 2012 Seattle Flower & Garden Show which will be held in February at the Seattle convention center. PSBA will again partner with Tony Fajarillo's company Redwood Builders LLC. The display will again be located in a prime spot in the main hall with 20 other garden creators. Tony and PSBA were awarded the silver medal in 2010. This is an unparalleled opportunity to promote bonsai and PSBA to 50,000 garden enthusiasts. As usual we will need to supply docents for the display...details in a future newsletter.

PSBA Needs Donations for Convention Raffle

Each year our PNBCA convention has a number of raffles which are featured during meal times. Carolyn Higgins is in charge of this year's raffles and she would appreciate a list of your donations for this year's raffles. You may either send them to her by snail mail or email. She would like to know what you wish to donate by the end of July. Her contact information is in the member roster.

Reminder: The Pacific Rim Collection is Open

The bonsai collection at Weyerhaeuser's Pacific Rim display center is open to the public each week except on Mondays. From July 14th to August 14th the collection will feature a special exhibit of suiseki called "Stone Images". We hope PSBA members will take this opportunity to visit the collection and this exhibit.

Puget Sound Bonsai Association

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 reprint articles is granted to other bonsai
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Monday, June 27	8am to noon and 1 pm to 5 pm—Ryan Neil workshops at Bonsai NW 7 pm Ryan Neil demonstration at CUH
Sunday, July 24 1PM-5PM	PSBA's Annual Potluck at the Center for Urban Horticulture
September 3-5	Pacific NW Bonsai Convention 2011 at The Fairmont Olympic Hotel in Seattle—more information at www.psba.us

