



the **TREE LINE**

the official monthly publication of the **BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND**

November 2010

Schedule of Upcoming Events

- November 20 - 2 to 5pm **Mentorship Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, St. Paul Room 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland
- November 29 - 7 to 9pm **Monthly BSOP Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, St. Paul Room 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland
LAST MONDAY See page 3 for details
- December 7 7 pm **BSOP Board Meeting**
Don Howse condo - 503 668 5834
- December 18 - BSOP Holiday Party
- December No regularly scheduled meetings
- January 8 - 10 to 2pm **OSK Meeting**
J. C. Kitchen Cabinets, Wilsonville
- January 11 7 pm **BSOP Board Meeting**
Don Howse condo - 503 668 5834
- January 15 - 2 to 5pm **Mentorship Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, St. Paul Room 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland
- January 25 - 7 to 9pm **Monthly BSOP Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, St. Paul Room 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland

Mentorship Meetings

In November, Ryan Neil will lecture on Fall and Winter care. Each attendee can bring one tree for Ryan to comment on.

There will be a **\$5.00** charge to attend the November meeting. This money goes directly to the Mentorship Program.

The meeting will be in the St. Paul room at St. Philip Neri from 2 - 5 pm on Saturday, November 20th.

Scott Tice

Oregon Shohin Kai

The Oregon Shohin Kai gathers monthly to learn about and work on shohin, which are the small bonsai (under 10 inches). We also work on mame, which are smaller yet and will fit in the palm of your hand, and chuhin, which can be up to 23-24 inches tall. Sometimes we even work on our bigger trees!

There are many reasons to have shohin, one of which is they are easier to move around on the benches. They can also be created out of smaller material, and are therefore quicker to provide satisfactory results. That is not to say they are easier, because flaws in the trees are often more difficult to correct or hide.

Although we typically meet on the first Saturday of the month, the next meeting of the Shohin Kai will be January 8, 2011. This is the second Saturday of the month, because the first Saturday is a holiday.

We meet from 10 AM to 2 PM (bring your lunch), in the workshop of J.C. Kitchen Cabinets, located on the east side of the Commerce Center South complex at the intersection of SW Boones Ferry Road, SW 95th Avenue and SW Elligsen Road. Take the North Wilsonville exit from I-5 and head west, take the first right, then right again into the parking lot, around the complex to the sign. Call Jan Hettick at 503-504-7760 if you get lost or have questions.

Jan

November Workshop and Monthly Meeting

I have a lot of information for our group for November and December. We have two guests in town shortly, Marco Invernizzi and Walter Pall. I have had good response for both of these events and we still have room in both events. If you have interest in either event and haven't let me know, please do as soon as possible by email rzabel@standard.com.

First on November 28th and 29th Marco Invernizzi will be in town to speak to our club. If you are not familiar with Marco, here is a short Bio from his website.

Marco Invernizzi is an award-winning Italian bonsai artist and design consultant recognized internationally as a bonsai master. Invernizzi was born and raised, in Milan, Italy, and studied art and design at the elite Istituto d'Arte Beato Angelico. He became interested in bonsai after seeing the film *The Karate Kid, Part III*; he was struck by the scene where Mr. Miyagi "explained that the sense of life is expressed through a beautiful bonsai." In 1991 he began working with Milan bonsai artist Salvatore Liporace, with whom he studied for five years. In 1997 he completed a college degree in Graphic Design and Industrial Design, then moved to Japan to begin a three-year apprenticeship under bonsai master Masahiko Kimura. He was Master Kimura's first non-Japanese student.

Since 2001, Invernizzi has been touring internationally conducting bonsai workshops and demonstrations, including as headline demonstrator at a number of high-profile bonsai exhibitions. He published a book in 2003 on his training in Japan, *Vado in Giappone sulla via dei bonsai (Going to Japan on the Bonsai Trail)*, and has published articles in bonsai periodicals throughout the world. His work has won Best in Show at the Italian Bonsai Exhibition and the Ghinko Bonsai Congress, as well the Crespi Bonsai Cup.^[3]



Fungi growing at the foot of an English elm bonsai

December Workshop

On Tuesday December 7 Walter Pall will be doing a workshop. We have not confirmed time or cost yet as we are trying to gauge interest and participation first. Attendance to this would be limited to 6-10 but depending on interest we could also expand to December 8. If you are not familiar with Walter, here is a short bio.

Walter Pall is one of the most popular bonsai artists who has performed on most international stages. He has visited the vast majority of European countries and also South Africa, Australia, Canada and the United States; he even appeared in Israel and in Argentina and Brazil.

His lectures are a treat. Walter's philosophy about demos is first and foremost to provide a basis of high quality bonsai work, add a substantial amount of explanation for the audience to clearly understand his development process, and also tell amusing anecdotes along the way. Altogether this makes for an entertaining and professional show. Nobody falls asleep in Walter's lectures. Walter often is called a walking encyclopedia on bonsai and he shares his knowledge freely. Walter also loves to lead workshops where he sets the main focus on teaching the artistic side of bonsai. In the past years Walter has also established himself as the key moderator for international bonsai conventions. A specialty of Walter is his tree critiques which he calls 'tree inspiration'. He analyses anything from stick in a yogurt cup to world class bonsai. Walter gives clear indications of pros and cons and describes ways to continue working with the trees.

He is known worldwide for the quality of his bonsai creations. Walter has received several dozen national and international awards for his beautiful, dramatic bonsai. He has won the most prestigious Crespi Cup Award of Italy for his well known Rocky Mountain Juniper, and has come in among the top six, every time he has entered. He has also won second and third and other places in the Ginkgo Cup Awards of the Belgium bonsai competition held every two years.

The Events

On the afternoon of Sunday November 28th

I would like to do a “bring your own tree workshop” with Marco. Marco and I have discussed a format that is different than in the past that can benefit more people. We would like 10 -15 people to bring a tree that they have questions about that we can discuss and all learn from. Marco’s perspective is “the more trees, the more opportunity to learn and share knowledge”

I will hold this event at St. Philip Neri Church starting at 1pm and going no later than 4pm depending on participation. This event is open to anyone and I am asking for \$10 at the door for those in attendance to help cover costs of room rental and travel for our guest artist. Please contact me if you would like to attend and bring a tree or if you would like to attend and just listen and ask questions. Once I hit the 15 tree threshold, any additional trees we may not have time to discuss. The goal of this format is to make it casual, interactive, engaging with a lot of personal interaction with Marco. You really don’t want to miss this! I would love to have a packed house for Marco. You must contact me if you plan to attend with or without a tree. Email is preferable: rzabel@standard.com

On the evening of Monday November 29th

I am moving our regular club meeting to the evening of Monday, November 29th to coincide with Marco’s visit. The meeting will still be at St. Philip Neri. I will be starting this meeting at 6:30 instead of 7pm as I want to ensure we leave enough time for our evening with Marco. Marco will be speaking to us and styling a collected juniper. The juniper styled by Marco will be an auction item at this year’s Christmas party. The meeting will go until 9pm as usual.

On Tuesday December 7

Walter will be doing a workshop. It could be a full day or half depending on the how many people would like to participate. We also could expand to Wednesday if there is a lot of interest. There will be a fee for this workshop. We are not asking for commitment at this point but we do need to know how many people might like to participate so we can plan rooms and times. This event will be at St. Philip Neri. The last visit and workshop by Walter received rave reviews. I don’t want to sound like I am a sales guy but again this is a rare opportunity to gain knowledge and insight. I would also love to fill this up so artists are excited to come to Portland because of all the ‘bonsai excitement’!

If you haven’t contacted me and you would be interested in participating in a ‘bring your own tree’ workshop with Walter Pall. Please contact me directly with your preference for workshop time. Full day or ½ day on December 7 and if ½ day, morning or afternoon. Email is preferable: rzabel@standard.com

On Saturday December 18

We will be having our annual Christmas party and auction. It will be held at Oaks Park again this year however we will be using a different caterer. More details on the cost per person and time for this event will follow as we finalize the details. As usual in December, the Christmas party will replace the monthly meeting. Our monthly meetings will resume in January.

Please contact me with any questions or if you have interest in the upcoming workshops and have not already contacted me.

Thanks

Rotary

November Meeting Business

The November meeting will include election of officers. The Nominating Committee worked hard to come up with a good slate of officers. **Many thanks to Pat Frey, Phil Hardin, Margie Kinoshita and Deb Wilcox for their hard work and many, many phone calls.**

New Board members being nominated include Eileen Knox for President, Greg Brendon for First VP (Programs), Robert Wofford for Treasurer and Karen Vunkannon for Secretary.

Margie Kinoshita has agreed to a second term as Second VP (Membership), and Don House has accepted nomination for Past President. Please be sure to come and vote for the new Board, who will be installed at the Annual Meeting in January.

In Memoriam

Remembering Myrth:

Portland Bonsai lost a good friend when Myrthine Garrison died on November 1st. Many of our newer members probably didn't know her or don't remember her. Some old timers like me, remember her well. Myrth was a member, and served on the Board, was President, and then an advisor for twenty five years. She was organized, reliable, and dedicated to the art of bonsai.

In the summer of 1992 when Myrth's drip system failed (while she was traveling) and all her bonsai died. She wanted to quit bonsai forever, but the president, Alan Taft, and the membership wouldn't let her. Club members donated trees and organized work parties to help her reestablish a collection. It's a true story that illustrates how a group of people can be united for a common, selfless goal.

Today BSOP is bigger, better, stronger, more informed and financially far more stable than it was when Myrth joined. She was a very real part of its growth, recognition, and success.

Becky Yasenchak

Margaret Roethe Christofferson passed away November 6, 2010 in Gladstone. We offer sympathy and condolences to her daughter Margie Kinoshita, our membership vice-president.

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

Imagine seeing Medieval England from the air---a patchwork of green fields bordered by hedgerows of yew, elm and hawthorn. The ancient yews that once provided wood for archers' longbows now humbly provide beanpoles for English gardens. It was a quest for such beanpoles that led Colin Lewis to discover an old elm that had been killed by the terrible elm blight of the 1970s. The parent root had survived and thrown up a sucker that had lain hidden and protected by the yew hedgerow for over a decade. Its few branches had been culled many times for beanpoles by other gardeners until the little tree became a warty old stump. In the years since he collected the stump, bonsai master Lewis transformed the warty little elm into a mighty monarch, much as Merlin once turned The Wart into King Arthur. Lewis shares his sorcerer's tips and tricks as well as his talents for writing and photography in "A Gardener's Legacy," *Bonsai Focus*, July-August 2010.

Karen Vunkannon

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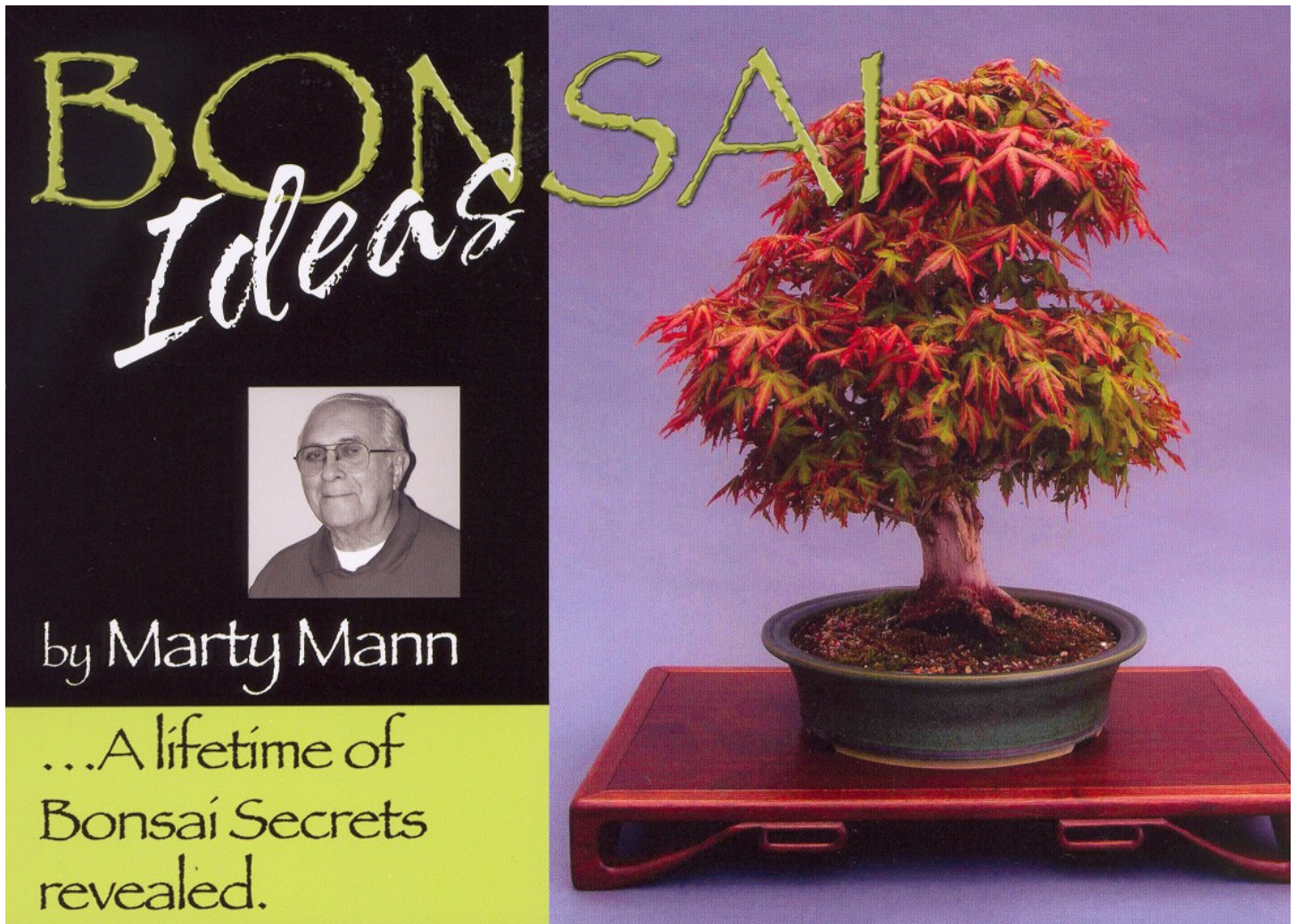
New Bonsai Book

While we were at the Golden State Bonsai Convention last month, we were introduced to a new book by Marty Mann – Bonsai Ideas. I haven't seen the book myself, but it is described on the website http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/bonsai_ideas/index.htm. Mr. Mann kindly offered to give us a discount on a group purchase. The book is being marketed at \$19.95 plus shipping and handling. BSOP members are being given the opportunity for a group purchase at **\$16.00** including tax, shipping and handling. This is a great buy!

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please let me know by email at janhettick@comcast.net, and send a check for \$16.00 payable to BSOP to Jan Hettick, 6707 SW Pine Street, Portland, OR 97223. I will place the order within a week or two, so don't wait!

Jan Hettick

503-504-7760



The image shows the cover of the book 'Bonsai Ideas' by Marty Mann. The cover is split into two main sections. The left section has a black background with the word 'BONSAI' in large, green, block letters at the top, and 'Ideas' in a white, cursive script below it. Underneath the title is a small, square, black and white portrait of an elderly man with glasses, identified as Marty Mann. Below the portrait, the text 'by Marty Mann' is written in a white, cursive font. The bottom of the left section has a green background with the text '...A lifetime of Bonsai Secrets revealed.' in a black, serif font. The right section of the cover features a photograph of a Japanese maple bonsai tree with vibrant red and orange autumn foliage. The tree is in a dark green ceramic pot and is placed on a dark red wooden stand. The background of the photograph is a solid light purple color.

- Perfect Nightstand Reader
- New Source of Reference
- Treasury of Information
- Calendar Year Summary with "Seasonal Suggestions"

Out On A Limb

BSOP is a very exciting organization to be a part of. There is a dynamic involvement of many members. Last evening (11/08) we had the monthly Board Meeting, and it was good to see so many folks be involved with the operation of this dynamic and growing organization.

The Board consists of 5 voting members, including the Secretary, the Treasurer, the 1st VP (Programs), the 2nd. VP (Membership), and the President. The immediate Past President is also in attendance as an advisor, but is not a voting member of the Board. The numerous committee chairs are also invited to report to the Board, and often they will come to the Board meetings. The Editor of *The Treeline* also attends.

The Secretary and Treasurer for the past 2 years have been Patricia and Brian Daniels. They have moved away from the Portland area to Lexington, Kentucky, so Brian can pursue a new career opportunity. Last evening we welcomed Karen VunKannon as Acting Secretary and Robert Wofford as Acting Treasurer for the remaining months of the current Board term. A newly elected Board will meet jointly with the existing Board during December and January. The new Board will then be installed at the January General Membership meeting.

The Board tends to the business affairs of your organization. We have had many areas of consideration in the past few months including programs, social events, the library, finances, mentorship, OSK, Heritage committee, the 2012 PNBCA Convention, Bonsai Shows, etc. etc. The committee chairs report to the Board on the details of these various committee affairs.

One of the current issues is a re-design and management of the website. Last evening Chas Martin, our Webmaster, presented to the Board an entirely new active website for us to consider. We were all very impressed with his presentation. So, we have given him our approval of his re-design and implementation of a new website, which will have links to a similar site also being designed for the 2012 PNCBA Convention. This site will be available for the general public to learn about BSOP, but have areas that can only be accessed by BSOP members, through a log-in format with a

password. This is one of the benefits of your membership in BSOP. Watch for future announcements with regards to this site being activated. I am sure you will be duly impressed. Thank you Chas, for taking the lead role in this matter, and to Eric Rutz who is assisting.

The Board also looked at how we can use improved technology with credit card processing equipment for the times we have such a need, like the auctions at club meetings, the Holiday Party, and other such events. Since our previous machine was out of date, and not working well, we asked the treasurer to pursue a new system. Our new treasurer, Robert Wofford has taken an active lead in pursuing a suitable resolution. Thank you Robert.

Our new Secretary has taken on the task of creating a database in which we can keep our records electronically. Thank you Karen.

Our programs for the next couple of months are exciting, and we will all enjoy the annual Holiday Party. Thank you Rory Zabel for taking on the task of arranging the venues, and seeing that we have good programs at our general membership meetings.

Margie Kinoshita keeps the membership records up to date, and is that friendly face that greets each of us at the general membership meetings. She maintains and sorts alphabetically the name badges each month too. Margie also sends out the e-mail blasts of information for BSOP members. She will soon be sending out our membership renewal information too. Thank you Margie for all your hard work.

These and other matters that the Board considers each month keep our organization dynamic, and growing. We now have 151 memberships in BSOP, both singles and family households.

I again offer my gratitude to all those individuals who tend to the business of our organization, both on the Board and in the various committees. We are dynamic and growing because of you.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving,

Don

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If you need bonsai supplies, please call ahead for delivery at a BSOP meeting



The *Bonsai Society of Portland* has been an active group in the Portland area since 1966. It is organized to promote the art of bonsai through education, exhibits and social activities. The Society welcomes everyone interested in this unique and beautiful art form to share in the bonsai experience and develop both basic and advanced skills.



Official Website
www.portlandbonsai.org
portlandbonsai@hotmail.com

Mailing address
PO Box #10615
Portland, Oregon 97296-0615

TreeLine deadline: 10th of the month

The Bonsai Society of Portland meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month except in summer, when other group outings are arranged.

St. Phillip Neri Parish
2408 SE 16th Avenue, Portland OR
Northeast corner of SE Division and 16th Avenue
Visitors are always welcome!

Board of Directors

President: Don Howse 503 668-5834 don@porterhowse.com
President emeritus: Jan Hettick 503 504-7760 janhettick@comcast.net
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VP-Membership: Margie Kinoshita 503 652-1959
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