



the TREE LINE

the official monthly publication of the BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

may

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May 27th Meeting

Our May meeting will be held at Saint Phillip Neri Parish on Tuesday the 25th. This will be a Whack and Chat so bring some material to work on. We will have some trees for sale at reasonable prices from the private collection of a late member of the Sakura club as well as our usual assortment of vendors and individuals with items for sale. Come early and socialize! ☺

Annual Spring Show

by Scott Elser

Our annual Spring Show has just wrapped up a great weekend of bonsai and what a terrific event it was. The quality of the trees exhibited was outstanding with many, many new trees and new varieties exhibited. I think that we had our first Sierra Juniper, Western Hemlock, and first White Birch, other than shohin. And speaking of shohin, there was an oriental bittersweet, another first. Different sizes and shapes were well represented from tiny mame to a very large wisteria on the back deck. We had about eight first-time exhibitors for a total of twenty six! Our informal demos drew a steady crowd as volunteer club members took the opportunity to prune, pinch, and wire their trees while the public looked on and asked questions. BSOP president Jan Hettick even put together a saikei. Another first were the half-hour tours of the exhibit by more experienced members. This was definitely a hit and Lee Cheattle's infectious passion had the whole room following him around. There were only two scheduled per day, but because of requests, we added some more rather impromptu.

The highlight of the weekend was definitely the Reception and Critique on Saturday evening. Some mighty awesome food was generously provided by Typhoon! and over forty of us gorged ourselves. Be sure to thank Lee for that. At 7:00, Mike Hagedorn commenced a great critique of the exhibit covering most of the display. What a great learning experience. We really do have one of the more outstanding shows in the country. During the reception, ballots were given to club members to vote on their favorite trees in the exhibit. Votes were counted during the critique and after Mike finished his talk the awards were made. This was another great first for the club and was heartily received by the members. There were three Best of Show awards; 1) Shohin - trees eight inches and shorter, 2) Deciduous, which included broadleaved evergreens like azaleas, and 3) Conifers, which included deciduous conifers like larch. The awards were as follows:

Best of Show: Shohin - Satsuki Azalea root over rock style by Charlene Smallwood

Best of Show: Deciduous - Shishigashira Japanese Maple by Bob Laws

Best of Show: Conifer - Western Hemlock by Scott Elser

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Calendar of Events

- MAY 27 - Tuesday 7 to 9 pm
ST Phillip Neri Parish - 2408 SE 16th. Ave. - Portland, OR
Monthly BSOP meeting - Whack & Chat
- JUNE 2 - Monday 6:30 pm
Hettick Residence - Tigard, Oregon
BSOP Board Meeting
Contact Jan Hettick for more information.
- JUNE 7 - Saturday - All Day
Pacific Rim Collection - Federal Way, WA
Work Party
For more info contact Jan Hettick
- JUNE 14 - Saturday 10 am to 2 pm
Community of Christ Church - 4837 NE Couch St.
Oregon Shohin Kai - Monthly meeting
- JUNE 14 - Saturday 2 to 5 pm
ST Phillip Neri Parish - 2408 SE 16th. Ave. - Portland, OR
Mentorship meeting - Tools and Summer Care
- JUNE 22 - Tentative
Suiseki Collecting Trip- More info to come
- JUNE 24- Tuesday 7 to 9 pm
ST Phillip Neri Parish - 2408 SE 16th. Ave. - Portland, OR
Monthly BSOP meeting -
Guest Artist Cindy Read on Suiseki
- JULY & AUGUST - NO MEETINGS:
BSOP---OSK---MENTORSHIP
- JULY 12 - Saturday - 11 am to ???
Wee Tree Farm - Philomath, OR
2008 Multi-Club Picnic - Great Fun!!!
- AUGUST 16 - Saturday - 12 am to 3 pm
Creston Park - Area A - 42nd & SE Powell - Portland
BSOP Summer Picnic - Email Scott Tice to offer Help
- SEPTEMBER 18 to 21 - Spokane, Washington
PNBCA Annual Convention
- OCTOBER 2 -5 th - Grantsville, PA
4th Annual International
Stone Appreciation Symposium
- OCTOBER 11 & 12th - Rochester, New York
Bonsai National Exhibit
- DECEMBER 13 - Oaks Park - Portland, Oregon
BSOP Annual Holiday Party

Check out the official BSOP website:
www.portlandbonsai.com
for the latest in events & information.

Mentorship Details

Upcoming Mentorship Events:

June 14th – Saturday - 2 to 5pm -
Hecker Hall at St. Philip Neri
Tools & Summer Care

Additionally; Please bring a few trees new.
Do not your tools.

If anyone has any questions about our meeting please
contact Steve Wilcox at (503) 720-9028

The next monthly meetings will be:

- July and August - No meeting

Membership Report

by Pat Foldi - VP of Membership

Count of Membership
as of May 8th.



Oregon Shohin Kai

by Arlene Sigourney

Oregon Shohin Kai is a club within BSOP dedicated to growing the smallest of bonsai. It is open to all members of BSOP.

Our May meeting at Telperion Farm was well attended and relaxing. We all found some tree treasures. Thank you Chris and Lisa Kirk for your hospitality.

The June OSK meeting has been changed from the 1st Saturday to the 2nd Saturday, June 14. We will meet at the regular place, in the basement at the Portland Community of Christ Church at 47th and Couch, just north of Burnside behind the police station. We'll be working on our shohin, so bring plenty of trees to work on. There will be lots of help/advice, and a short program on summer pruning and maintenance.

Don't forget to bring your lunch. We meet from 10am to 2pm. Contact Arlene Sigourney for more information: asigourney@aol.com or (503) 667-0148. 🌳

Adventitious Buds

Please take the time to introduce yourself to our new members

Gerard Berardi



President's Message

by Jan Hettick, President

I'm sure you'll be excited to know that I've got my repotting done. Well, except for some of the odds and ends and all my houseplants that are waiting anxiously to move outside. I'm writing this as we start into our first heat wave, so they may get their wish this weekend. Right AFTER I get my drip watering system operational. And the tomatoes planted.

First, I want to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to Scott Elser (8 years as Show Coordinator!) and all his hard working minions for a wonderful exhibit at the Japanese Garden over Mother's Day Weekend. It was beautiful! And truly a group effort – it seems as if the whole club got involved. Perfect! But if you missed the Saturday Evening Reception, I'm sorry. That is developing into one of the best events of the year. See Scott's article elsewhere in the newsletter.

I'm looking forward to the June meeting, which will be on viewing stones and suiseki. Cindy Read will be coming from El Cajon, California to give us some basic introduction to the art. She's promised to bring a bunch of her collected stones, and we'll have some "slides". We expect to have a stone collecting trip on Sunday, June 22nd – we just don't know where, yet. The Japanese word for stone collecting is "tanseki", tan = search and seki – stones. See the article in next months' newsletter on Tanseki 101, reprinted by permission of Golden Statements.

It's time to start thinking about the next slate of officers, to be elected in November 2008 and installed in January 2009. Steve Wilcox has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee. If you're interested in serving on the committee, or have some ideas or suggestions, be sure to talk to Steve.

Thanks to all of you who helped set out and pick up the library books at the April meeting. But we're still looking for help (I know, I'm such a nag) in getting old books back. Check with Librarian Barbara Devitt to see if you're on the list as the last recorded person to have a particular book.

Another job that needs help is hospitality. Deb Wilcox will have a sign-up sheet at the meeting for refreshments at future meetings. And we could use some help on publicity. Someone to keep track of major events are coming up and notify the public, such as by way of the Oregonian Homes & Gardens calendar of events, which has to be submitted three weeks prior to publication.

Idea of the Month: Even an avid bonsaiist has to have a break once in a while. This idea borrows a page from the Portland Rose Society – a book exchange. Geared toward those of us who read non-bonsai paperback books for entertainment and escape. These books can pile up on your shelf. So bring two or three books for the book exchange, and take two or three books you haven't read away with you. No check-out, no returns required, just trading books.



A Word from the V.P.

by Steve Wilcox, VP Programs

Here we are in the middle of May and finally are going to get some warm weather. The problem as I see it is that I consider 70 warm and 90 way to hot. In this last week my azaleas are starting to show some color. I know I am supposed to pull all the flower buds in a repotting year but have not yet. So, my azaleas and I have compromised. They get to bloom for one week and then everything goes.

The show was great as usual. Scott Elser did a great job with many club members help. The food this year was plentiful and great thanks to Lee. There were several new trees in the show including one of mine which was critiqued. Time for me to raise the bar.

Our May meeting is going to be a whack and chat along with that I would like everyone who would like to sell, trade, exchange trees and bonsai related products to bring what they want to part with. This will be a great time to move out those items you will never work on or use.

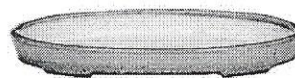
June will be our visit from Cindy Read explaining and showing us about the art of Suiseki. They may seem like rocks but are much more. This is the perfect meeting for those of you who have always picked up rocks on your journeys. I know Deb is looking forward to it as she is constantly lugging rocks back to the car where ever we go. I hope many of you that have Suiseki at home bring them to the meeting to show. Please see Jan's article in this newsletter regarding Cindy's visit.

There will be no meeting in July.

In August our annual picnic will be held on Saturday the 16th. The location will be Creston Park near SE 44th and SE Powell. We are still looking for a couple of more people to assist Scott with the picnic. If you are interested please contact Scott Tice or myself.

The next Mentorship meeting will be held in June on Saturday the 14th from 2 pm to 5 pm. The program will be about bonsai tools their uses and care. Please bring your own trees to work on after the program on tools. Remember that the mentorship program is for both new and current members. Whether you are learning or sharing these meetings are great for all who attend.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding our meetings please feel free to contact me.



5th Annual Work Party Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection

The annual Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection work party is scheduled a little earlier this year. August last year was way too hot, so this year we're going June 7th, the first Saturday in June.

This is truly a work party – wear work clothes and take your favorite tools, such as pruning shears, loppers, rakes, etc. Dave suggests a bucket and knee pads. Also, bring a lunch, liquid refreshments, your gloves, hat, sun screen and rain gear. Some of the more experienced members work on the trees, but for the most part we work on the grounds, both inside the display area and along the entrance path.

Each person in the work party is invited to bring one tree. After the work is done, Dave will spend some time giving suggestions on styling and/or maintenance.

This is a great opportunity to see the Collection and be involved with some world-class trees up close and personal. We should plan to be there by 10:00 AM. Allow at least 2.5 hours for the drive. We can coordinate rides to save gas. Only ten or twelve people can go, so be sure to sign up or contact Jan Hettick, janhettick@comcast.net or (503) 504-7760. Let Jan know if you need a ride. 🚗



Lee Cheatle discusses Saikei at the April meeting.



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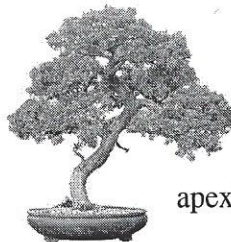
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call ahead for delivery at a BSOP meeting.*

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Yoshiaki, Nakayama, Masakuni

-and-

Hard to find items such as camellia oil, HB 101

Ask about bonsai society member discounts.

To contact us, please call or email

Chris & Lisa Kirk •(503) 859-3697 •tfarms@wvi.com

Multi-Club Potluck Picnic

The 2008 Multi-Club Picnic is on July 12th. It will start at 11:00 am to whenever! The pot luck lunch will be at noon and a contest, to be announced, will be held after lunch. Please bring your own plate and eating utensils. We will have paper plates and plastic silverware just in case. We usually have plenty of chairs but you may have a favorite you would like to bring. The Corvallis Bonsai Society will provide coffee and cold refreshments.

The picnic will be held at Wee Tree Farm, 23642 Pearson Place, Philomath, OR. It's easy to find. Take Highway 20 west out of Philomath. Approx. 4 miles west of Philomath turn right on #223 Kings Valley Highway, then left on Priest Road, and left on Pearson Place.

Hope to see you!

Are you getting your BSOP email alerts?

If not, please let Pat Foldi know your correct address... or your NEW address. Some addresses are still bouncing back. Contact Pat (patfoldi@comcast.net) to get on the emailing list.

Bonsai Supplies from Wee Tree Farm

Not only do we have a large selection of pottery, trees, tools, etc., but Garland Nursery has 5 acres of plants to browse through. Please come see us, I promise it is worth the drive!

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(541) 753-6601



Any questions please call
Diane at (800) 638-1098

Tanseki 101: In Search of the Stone

by Larry and Nina Ragle

Now that the weather is favorable and the rivers are subsiding, it is the perfect time to go on a rock hunt!

Rock hunting is an extremely accessible activity; unlike bonsai, just about anyone can do it. You do not need to buy fancy equipment or have a lot of specialized knowledge and chances are you won't kill anything.... Take the family, take friends... take your neighbors... take us.... just don't go alone.

Of course, the more you know about stones, the better the chances are of bringing home something really special, but even first timers have been known to find a brilliant stone. Gill Hildebrandt and Peter Bloomer did it! Their first stones are now part of the North American Viewing Stone Collection at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.

Look for a stone that captures your imagination... a stone you can carry... a stone to remember the day by. Don't bother to bring home soft stones or ones with abrasive surfaces or any stone that is cracked or freshly chipped unless you have another use for it, for example, root over rock or saikei, or you just like it. All show quality viewing stones, regardless of their classification, are natural, dense and smooth with an aged patina and undamaged.

The best landscape scene stones, suiseki, are dark - black, green or brown. They may be multicolored. White inclusions are good only when they appear as water, ice or snow. Ideally, suiseki have a flat or nearly flat bottom, a sloping front and back and asymmetrical sides. Their shape should embrace the viewer. Colorful stones, biseki, can be of any shape whether a single color or multicolored. Rare stones, chinseki, include human, animal, hut and boat shapes and stones with a surface pattern regardless of shape. In the classic sense, the patterns should be of a scene in nature, celestial, weather, botanical, animal or human shapes. Some pattern stones reflect the image of Japanese characters, kanji.

Fact: You may be the only person in the world to see these shapes or patterns. That's O.K. That is what this art form is about, the power of suggestion.

Get out there and walk around... take a crowbar and a back pack, food and water. Take gloves, bug spray and a first aid kit. Rivers usually offer the best opportunities at this time of year... when the deserts are too hot to even think about. [other references to California deleted].

Rock hunting is like a mini vacation... your mind is so focused on the moment that you forget your troubles... if you have any... and the benefits are awesome.

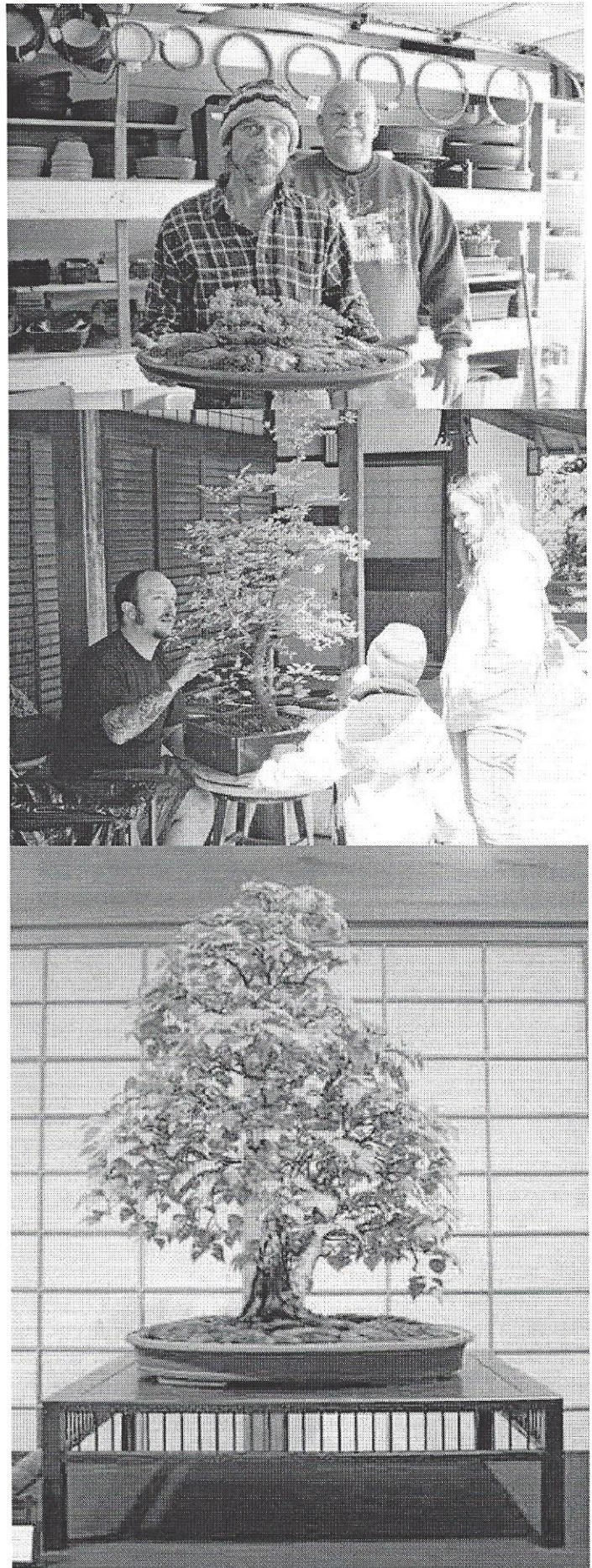
Of course, it is always important to remember where you are... no trespassing, no matter what! No picking up stones from state parks... you get the idea.

Never walk or wade into unfamiliar or fast moving water. People have been swept away. If you see wild animals, particularly baby bears, move away slowly. If you happen upon a marijuana patch, move away quickly! Please use common sense so you will not get hurt. Rocks can be slippery, both in the water and on the shore.

Getting out in the countryside and enjoying what nature has to offer is reward enough for a long drive but finding a stone is icing on the cake! You have heard the commercial... just do it! And have fun.

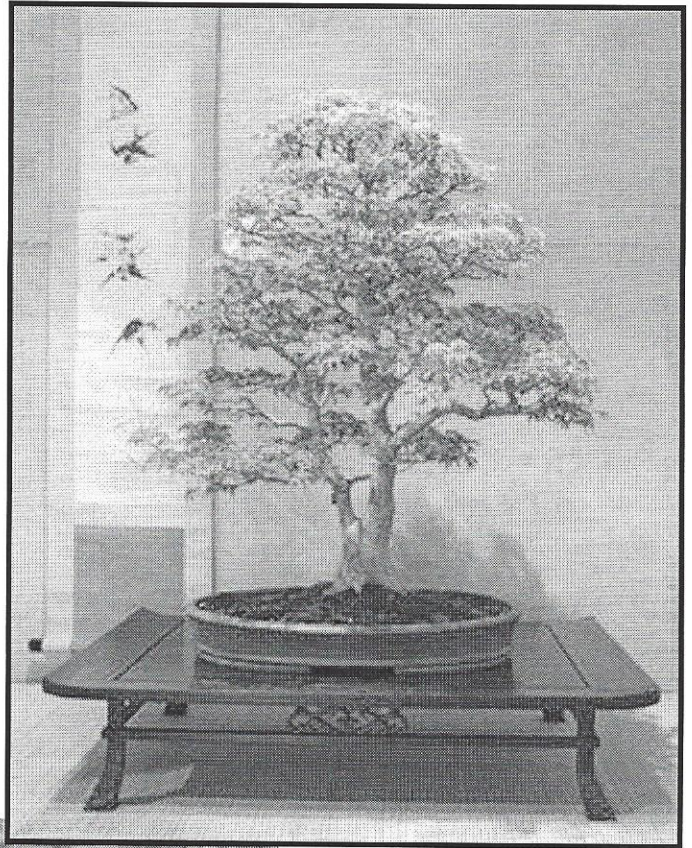
For those who may be interested in learning more about viewing stones... please see our website, www.aisekikai.com, where you can read two years of our award winning newsletter.

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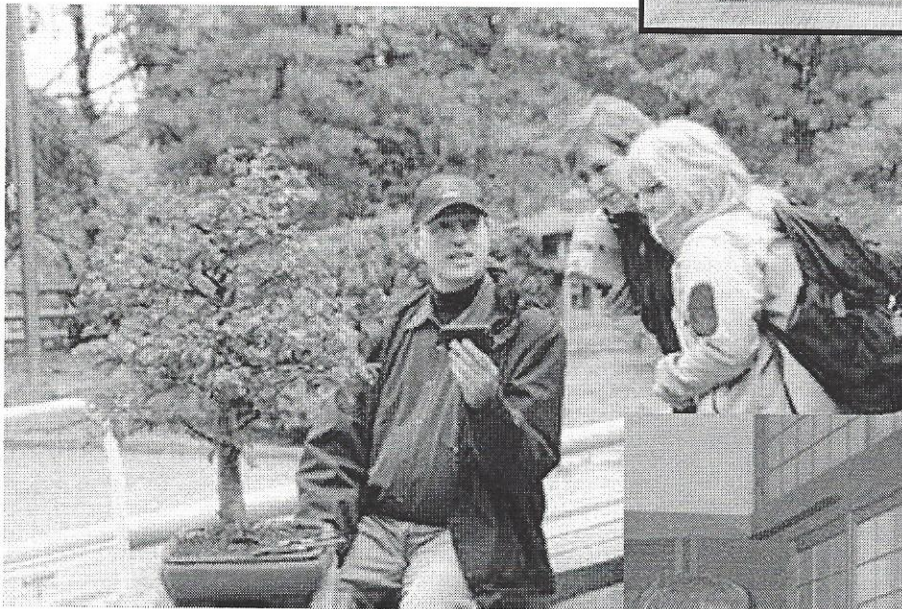


Annual Spring Show cont. from pg. 1

I wanted to take time to thank the whole club for a great team effort in putting this show on. I think that everything went very smooth and that the take down was easily the smoothest ever. First of all, kudos to Lee Cheattle and Joanne Raiton who graciously worked two months to help put the show together, visiting gardens and selecting trees, and Pat Foldi who coordinated all the volunteers - a long list indeed! Alan Taft did a bang up job with the marketplace and Anne Spencer organized all the shohin folks. As you may have gathered, we had quite a few people involved in the show who volunteered their time and energy in some capacity or another, no matter what their level of bonsai experience. We had brand new members, new to bonsai, jumping in and helping get the job done. About sixty to seventy folks who brought trees, helped set-up and take-down, gave tours, demonstrated, tree sat, and worked the marketplace. Many folks also shared their resources in the form of accent plants, stands, scrolls, etc... I wanted to especially thank all of those people who helped in the set up and take down of the display. Your diligence is appreciated. Thank you so much! Be sure to congratulate all the winners! 🌳



Best of Show: Shishigashiri



Dennis Vojtilla demonstrates

Michael Hagedorn during the critique



Shohin Award



BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

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.



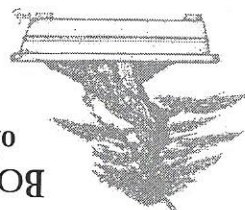
Official Website
www.portlandbonsai.org
portlandbonsai@hotmail.com

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

TreeLine deadline: 10th of the month

P. O. Box 10615
Portland, OR 97296-0615

BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND



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

St. Phillip Neri Parish
2408 SE 16th. Ave. • Portland, OR
(Northeast Corner of SE Division and 16th. Ave.)

Visitors are always welcome!

Board of Directors

President: Jan Hettick (503) 452-1129 janhettick@comcast.net
VP - Programs: Steve Wilcox (503) 848-2638 slwilcox1@verizon.net
VP - Membership: Pat Foldi (503) 635-7137 patfoldi@comcast.net
Treasurer: Devon Bolt (503) 538-9401 dbolt@busyhands.biz
Secretary: Deb Wilcox (503) 848-2638 djbwilcox@verizon.net

Committee Heads

Librarian: Barb Devitt (503) 261-0568 bdevitt@juno.com
Hospitality: Available! Contact Jan Hettick if interested.
Mentorship: Jeanne Hehlen (360) 828-6454 bonsaibean@comcast.net
Shohin Kai: Arlene Sigourney (503) 667-0148 asigourney@aol.com
Newsletter: Scott Tice (503) 781-0310 scotttice@teleport.com
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