



the **TREE LINE**

the official monthly
publication of the

BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

Upcoming Events

January
2024

Monthly Meetings:

January 23 6:00-9:00 BSOP Monthly Meeting, Daisaku Nomoto Presents

February 11 9:00-1:00 Mentorship 101 class, Oregon Grape Room, Milwaukie Center

February 11 1:30-3:30 Mentorship 102 Lab, Oregon Grape Room, Milwaukie Center

February 23 6:00-9:00 BSOP Monthly Meeting, Ryan Neil Presents

Greetings BSOP,

I hope everyone is off to a great start to the New Year, I couldn't be more excited about what we as a club have going on in 2024! Ben our VP of Programs has lined up a rockstar list of presenters, we're going to have some amazing programming this year.

We have a busy first half of the year, with an outreach event at the Portland Japanese Garden in April and another club show at Portland nursery in early summer! In the fall, the Pacific Bonsai Expo returns for a second time in Oakland, California. BSOP, as well as many prominent clubs along the West Coast, help sponsor this show as it's the best exhibition of bonsai west of the Rockies, and perhaps the best bonsai show in North America as a whole.

At the first Expo BSOP was well represented with over a dozen exhibits, and we had dozens of members attend, volunteer and donate. I'm looking forward to everything we have going on as a club, and the PBE in October 2024!

Cheers, *Andrew Robson* BSOP President

Thank You Library Inventory Volunteers

Thanks to the work of Library volunteers, 1260 items were inventoried in the BSOP Library at the Milwaukie Center. The audit is performed annually to ascertain if we have missing or duplicate items in the collection, and help decide future needs.

Thanks to Trisha Bonapace, Gretchen O'brien, David Connors, Ellen Bartholomew, Carrol Jeanne, and Jay Schwab we finished in record time. Special thanks to our Librarian, Jan Hettick, for directing our efforts.

Michael Babbit

BSOP January Programs Update

I hope this newsletter finds you rested and recovered from all the excitement of the holiday season. As we step into the new year, I am thrilled to share some highlights from our December Holiday Party, which, by all measures, was the most well-attended in the history of the Bonsai Society of Portland.

The festive occasion was not just a celebration but also an opportunity to express our gratitude to the dedicated members who have been the backbone of our organization. We presented awards to those whose unwavering commitment and efforts have contributed significantly to the success of our club, and the events and programs we offered throughout 2023. A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who generously shared their time and passion, BSOP wouldn't be such a vibrant and welcoming community without you!

One of the most delightful highlights of the afternoon was the Holiday Bonsai Decoration Contest. The creativity and festive spirit displayed by our members were truly exceptional. The bonsai masterpieces adorned with holiday cheer added a special touch to the event, making it a unique and memorable celebration.

Looking ahead to our January meeting, I'm excited to announce a special presenter: Daisaku Nomoto, a distinguished bonsai artist with a remarkable background. For those unfamiliar with Mr. Nomoto and his work, he is Boon Manakitivipart's senpai, or senior. The two apprenticed together with Kihachiro Kamiya at Kihachi-en in Aichi prefecture, Japan. Upon completing his apprenticeship, Mr. Nomoto returned to Kyushu to work with his father at the family nursery, Nomoto Chinshoen. His expertise and insights promise to make our upcoming meeting an enlightening experience for all.

As we embrace the new year, I can't help but express my excitement for what lies ahead. We've already scheduled several amazing programs in 2024 taught by world-renowned bonsai professionals, including two from Japan. The coming year is shaping up to be action-packed, filled with learning opportunities, and I can't wait for everyone to join us on this thrilling journey.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Bonsai Society of Portland. Here's to a fantastic year of growth, learning, and the shared love for the art of bonsai.

Best regards, *Benjamin MacBeth*, vp-programs@portlandbonsai.org



Two entries for the bonsai decoration contest



MENTORSHIP NEWS

First of all, a big thank you to all the people who made this Mentorship day happen. In the Mentorship 101 Bonsai Basics Class we had a full classroom with 20 students and many drop-ins. There were 5 mentors, Roger Case, Lee Cheadle, Keith Wingfield, Brandon McMullin, and myself. We gave our all to help the students through this first class. It was a little chaotic as is every first class, but we settled in and I expect our second class to be smooth sailing. Thank you everyone for settling up the room and working together to get us organized.

Juniper is our tree of choice for January because of its ability to withstand early pruning and structural wiring. One outstanding characteristic of the juniper is that it is governed by its foliage rather than by the roots as is the case for most trees. The students had their first experience with placing the primary wires. We have some surprisingly good first time wirers. They also learned how to clean a tree, remove flaws, and expose the nebari. Well done! Bending the wires was a little more complicated and we will practice our skills more at the next class.

In February, the pine is the thing. We will be learning about single flush vs multi flush, short needle vs long needle and development vs refinement. A lot of information. There will be a repeat of the cleaning, flaw removal and nebari exposure on the Mugo. This process is repeated for each tree we work with. Bonsaists usually do a cleaning at least twice a year on their personal trees so it is a valuable skill to learn. The Mugo is a single flush, alpine tree that we have found to be pest and drought resistant as well as vigorous and adaptable. They respond well to all the pain we might inflict on them. Perfect for beginners and experts alike.

The Mentorship 101 Bonsai Basics Class welcomes any member of the BSOP to drop in and check out what's going on. **JUST A REMINDER:** Drop-ins are silent observers. We would very much appreciate it if you would enter by the back door, check in with Brandon McMullin, get your name tag and take a seat around the perimeter. Only the students and mentors should be actively moving around.

This year is the first year we have scheduled the Mentorship 102 Open Lab to follow the M101. The M101 starts at 9:00 and ends at 1:00. M102 begins at 1:30, no earlier, and is over at 3:30. The students set up the room for both meetings and the lab participants clean the room before leaving. From 1:00 to 1:30, mentors will be taking a much needed break. Once again, please enter the room by the back door. Bring only one tree to work on into the room. Additional trees can be left outside the door. Mentors are not assigned to any one group for the lab, but will be roaming throughout the room and you may have to request their help.

Take advantage of this amazing opportunity that the club is offering. We look forward to seeing you there.

Joanne Raiton, Mentorship Chair, joanneraiton@msn.com

Library Hours

Reminder: The BSOP library will be open from 6:00 to 6:45pm January 23rd. All materials checked out at the November 28 meeting are due at the January 23rd meeting.

Jan Hettick

BSOP Holiday Party

Many club members and guests attended a festive afternoon enjoying homemade foods, an oral auction and the decorated bonsai tree competition.



Enjoying a holiday lunch



Impressive long table of food



Lee Cheatle presided over the oral auction as lucky bidders got great deals.

Photos courtesy of Jim Baggett



Three more examples of many fine entries in the decorated bonsai tree contest.



The Outstanding Volunteers for 2023.



Introducing the Inaugural 2024 BSOP Educational Scholarship!

The BSOP Executive board would like to invite submissions to our new educational Scholarship program. Members of BSOP in good standing may submit an application for funds to be used to further their study of bonsai and bonsai related subjects.

Please contact Patrice Morrow at morrowpatrice3@gmail.com to request a Scholarship Grant Application. Applications will be returned and distributed to the BSOP board, with obscured identification, and a vote will take place to either accept or decline the proposal.

Scholarship grant amount is not to exceed \$500 and will be capped at one request per member per year. Please allow at least 30 days for processing.

Thank you for your support-

Sincerely, the BSOP Board of Directors; Andrew Robson, Ben MacBeth, Patrice Morrow, Brandon McMullin and Jeffrey Robson



The Fish, a juniper in Michael Hagedorn's collection.
To inspire our Mentorship students



Bonsai in Winter



Haiku

Thick heavy blankets
 Fitting for a cold bedroom
 Icy twigs will wait

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The Bonsai Society of Portland meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

The Milwaukie Center

5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie OR 97222

Enter parking lot from Rusk Road

Visitors are always welcome!

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Contact information is on the BSOP website www.portlandbonsai.org under Services/Members Only/Membership Directory