

Upcoming Events

April 2022

Monthly Meetings:

April 26, 6-9pm BSOP Monthly meeting, Dennis Vojtila presents crown development. Milwaukie Senior Center

May 14-15, All day Pre Bonsai Seminars, Milwaukie Senior Center. See page 4.

May 17, 6-9pm BSOP Monthly meeting, Jonas Dupuich presents Black Pine Decandling. Milwaukie Senior Center. *3rd Tuesday this month*

June 28, 6-9pm BSOP Monthly meeting, Advanced Deciduous Techniques, Andrew Robson and

Greetings BSOP,

Hard to believe we just had the latest snow on record in over 80 years. Some areas of the BSOP community saw 6 inches or more. Within the last 12 months we first had a heat dome that reached a record 117 degrees last summer and now a spring snow. Who'd of thought bonsai in the Pacific Northwest would experience these extremes. Keep an eye on the weather the next couple of days. If we drop below freezing we will need to protect the tender foliage emerging on our deciduous bonsai as we continue to protect recently repotted bonsai. Remember these should not be allowed to freeze and need to be kept out of the wind as well. Also if there is any heavy snow accumulation on the bonsai it needs to be carefully brushed off to prevent the fine ramification from breaking.

On a positive note our club membership continues to grow and we are hovering between 470 and 500 members. This is great, at our next meeting make it a point to say hello to someone you don't know.

At the next meeting, Dennis will be teaching us all about crown development in deciduous bonsai. It will be a great lesson for all of us. Don't forget he has won the Best Deciduous Bonsai Award at the last three US National Bonsai Exhibitions. He knows the techniques required for developing spectacular award winning trees. Try to attend his presentation.

Also based on the continued decline of Covid infections in our area, we are dropping both the requirements for proof of vaccination and masks. Both are now optional. However, we encourage everyone to be respectful to those who are vulnerable and may choose to continue to mask up for their own protection.

Finally there is a short article in this newsletter on the upcoming club event Farm to Table. It is an event not to be missed so please register early. It will be a unique affordable and casual learning seminar on taking ground grown material and developing it into a show worthy bonsai. The artwork for the event was developed by our own Scott Elser and it is spectacular. We hope you survived repotting and are now looking forward to the unfolding spring and what lies ahead with our trees as we continue to advance their bonsai journey.

> Cheers, Andrew Robson BSOP President

March Monthly Meeting

After opening remarks by President Robson, Michael Hagedorn discussed chojubai, a form of flowering quince. Michael's extensive experience in growing and styling this flowering bonsai gave club members an opportunity to gain information not widely available about successfully developing chojubai bonsai.





Flower detail on chojubai bonsai

A fine example of a developed chojubai bonsai





Members enjoyed tokonoma displays Photographs courtesy of Jim Baggett



BSOP Library News

Another new book as arrived for the BSOP library: *Growing Pines for Bonsai* by Julian R. Adams. His website, adamsbonsai.com, has the following to say about the new book:

"Julian R. Adams has been deeply immersed in growing pine bonsai for fifty years. His early work with pines was frustrating due to incomplete and conflicting information about pine culture for bonsai. Persistent investigation and growing has led to a deep understanding of how the two groups of pines used for bonsai should be treated by the grower in creating excellent bonsai. This book presents a clear picture of how both groups of pines grow and how they should be treated to achieve healthy plants with short needles. The techniques used are explained in detail with many full color photos of each important stage throughout the annual growing cycle.

"Reasons for the actions recommended are given so that the 'rules' become clear guides rather than mysterious commands. A major aim of this book is to make creating bonsai with pines an easily attainable goal for previously unexperienced or intimidated pine growers."

Found in the Conifers section of the BSOP library, *Growing Pines for Bonsai* is an 8.5 x 11 inch soft cover book with 95 pages of text and full color photos.

Jan Hettick

Assistant Librarian

Knives & Forks – Oh My!

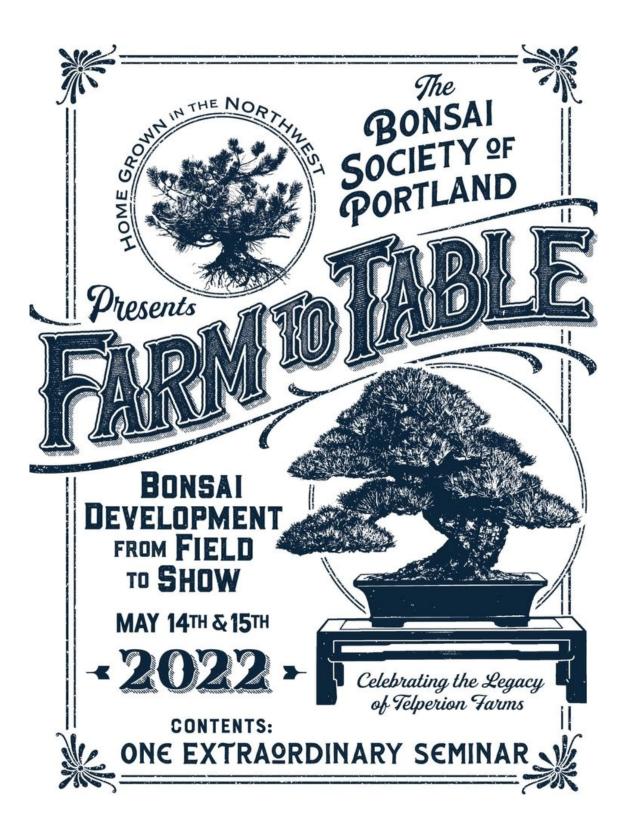
Well.....actually concave cutters & bonsai shears; knob cutters & trunk splitters - would be more appropriate for BSOP's version of Farm to Table. The event is designed as an affordable weekend learning seminar kicking off on World Bonsai Day May 14th. Bonsai has become a bridge for international friendship and peace so why not join us as our local community gathers at the Milwaukie Center to celebrate World Bonsai Day on Saturday, May 14. We celebrate the tremendous contribution the Kirks and Telperion Farms made to PNW bonsai and beyond.

The seminar and its events are designed to highlight field grown material and the process to produce a show ready bonsai displayed on a table or stand if you prefer. Bonsai is an opportunity to separate ourselves from the anxieties of the world – a chance for bonsai artists or those admiring trees to practice mindfulness, form new friendships and appreciate the natural world. Bonsai has become a bridge for international friendship and peace echoing the vision of bonsai master Saburo Kato who is known as the father of World Bonsai Day.

Headliners for the event are bonsai professionals: Jonas Dupuich, John Eads, Michael Hagedorn, Matt Reel, Andrew Robson and Gary Wood. There will be live demonstrations, critiques, a super group workshop, a marketplace with trees, ceramics and supplies plus a formal display featuring many farm to table bonsai. This amazing weekend of bonsai activities will be capped off with a reception and recognition of the Kirks and their legacy to American Bonsai.

Did I mention there will be cupcakes for everyone! Kudos to Scott Elser who did an outstanding and amazing job on the artwork for the event. Each registrant will receive a commemorative tee shirt with the Farm to Table artwork on the back. Bring your own lunch each day and gather under the pavilion to spend time with your bonsai buddies and meet new ones as the club continues to grow by leaps and bounds. It is going to be a great casual weekend and we hope many of our members will participate. It is an event not to be missed. You can register at www.portlandbonsai.org

Jeffrey Robson



White Pines

Western White Pine

The Western White Pine, Pinus monticola, seen in the photo is from the North Cascades, Washington. Cones are borne on branches receiving full sun. Trees can grow to 70' with a diameter of 2'. Bark is grey and thin, smooth, becoming furrowed into distinctive rectangular to hexagonal scaly plates in large individuals. Branches nearly whorled, spreading-ascending; twigs slender, pale red-brown, rusty and slightly glandular (rarely glabrous), aging purple-brown or gray, smooth. Buds ellipsoid or cylindric, rust-colored, 0.4-0.5cm, slightly resinous. Needles 5 per fascicle, spreading to ascending, persisting 3-4 years. It can survive low intensity ground fire better than Tsuga or Abies and do well under such conditions as well as thriving in poor soils such as bogs, sands, glacial outwash gravels and barren rock.

Plant them in pumice in terra cotta pots and they grow vigorously. They prefer excellent drainage.



Don't try to decandle white pines. They do not have the vigor of black or even red pines. More patience is required to enjoy the beauty and grace of these trees.

Here is a photo taken by Eric Schrader in 2015 of Matt Reel styling a Western White Pine, Pinus monticola.



Below is a photo of Eric Schraders white pine before Matt styled it. Eric writes about this species. "Pinus monticola, or Western White Pine, is native to the Sierra Nevada mountains, Cascade Range and the Pacific Northwest.

The tree has a typical slender white-pine family needle with a somewhat more muted coloration than many of the striped white-pine family members. The needles are beautifully soft and seem to end up anywhere from 1- to 2-inches in length under bonsai care.

As with other white pines, less water and fertilizer, particularly in spring and early summer, leads to shorter needles. However, I always hesitate to starve a tree, either of water or fertilizer since I'd rather have a healthier tree with long needles than a sick one with short needles.

Apart from the needles, I think that the smell of working with a P. monticola is one of my favorite things. While a nice Ponderosa can smell like vanilla-pineapple, P. monticola has a bit spicier character to the pitch that is oddly pleasant." Get the full story at <u>https://phutu.com/p-monticola-meets-matt-reel/</u>



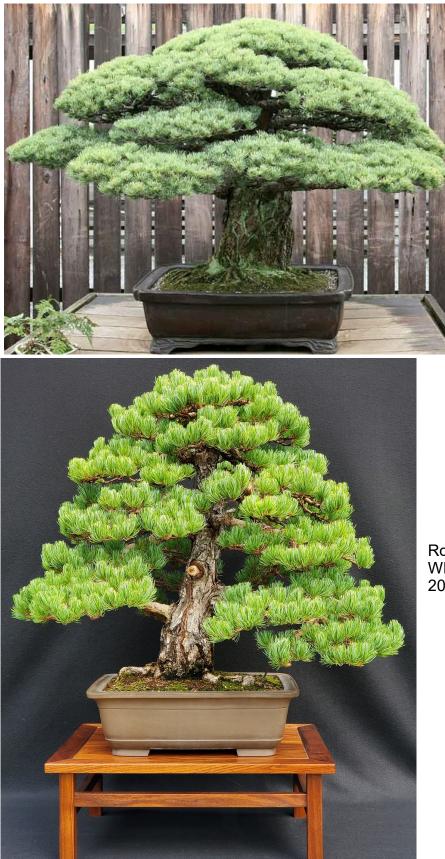


Eric Schrader's white pine after Matt styled it

Japanese White Pine

Japanese White Pine, Pinus parviflora, is native to Japan and Korea. Commonly represented by Pinus parviflora 'Glauca'. 'Glauca' has needles 5-7 cm long, stiff, bowed and twisted, green on outside, very blue-white on inside, most common form in cultivation It is pyramidal and dense when young, but as it ages it becomes wider and flat-topped at the crown. It grows more than 12" a year, and becomes $10'-20'H \times 10'-15'W$ in 10 years, spreading to $20'-40'H \times 20'-50'W$ at maturity. Red-brown seed cones grow in clusters on new shoots. Japanese White Pine prefers full sun, and grows in a variety of moist soils that are well-draining. It is hardy in USDA zones 5 to 9.

Special cultivars include: '<u>Ogon janome'</u> - small, broad upright tree, soft green needles have bright yellow banding, 4 ft (1.2 m) tall in 10 years, <u>Pygmy Yatsubusa'</u> - small upright tree; needles small, thin, green, grows about 3 inches (7.5 cm) a year, <u>'Tani Mano Uki'</u> - shrub, dwarf, round mound; needles green with white, new needles are pink.



Pinus parviflora 'Miyajima' (Japanese White Pine

Roger Snipes' Japanese White Pine bonsai .BCI 2020 Tree of the Year



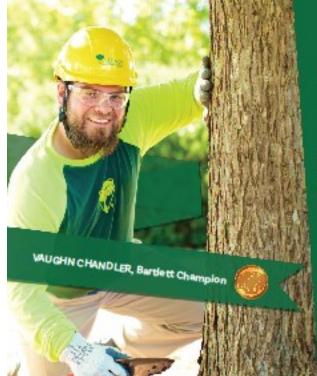
Western White Pine about 1m tall

Japanese Snowbell or Styrax



Trees For Sale including the trees pictured above, evergreens including native, Shimpaku, Itoigawa junipers, various pines, mtn hemlock, spruces, moderately priced. Sizes vary from shohin to all one person wants to carry. Also varieties of maples and elms and accent plants. Call 503 704 3891 **Editor**.





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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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