

## **Upcoming Events**

June 2022

### Monthly Meetings:

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

July 16 9am-12 noon BSOP Summer Picnic / Swap Meet and Summer Vendors August 23 6-9pm BSOP Monthly meeting, Member Tree Critique

#### Greetings BSOP,

Hope you are enjoying this cool spring, I'm sure glad that we haven't reached 117° like a year ago. We're continuing to hear great things about our Farm to Table seminar, and again thank all of those who were involved or participated.

We should all have finished decandling black pines by now, as the deadline for doing that in Portland is June 1st for big and medium sized trees, and the first week of June for shohin.

At my garden, RAKUYŌ bonsai, we've just begun our summer deciduous work, defoliating and cutting back spring growth. It's a good time of year to start if you're seeing really bushy plants with vigorous growth.

Keep an eye out for pests, aphids and other critters that love the sugary spring growth on broadleaf trees. This month I'll be giving a presentation on shohin bonsai, and look forward to seeing you all at our monthly meeting (or on zoom).

Cheers.

Andrew Robson BSOP President

# May Monthly Meeting

Jonas Dupuich discussed the topic of Black Pine decandling. He clearly explained the process using visual aids and his extensive personal experience. Members attending enjoyed the informative and entertaining presentation. For those who missed it, go to

https://bonsaitonight.com/ for information on this topic and much more.

### American Hornbeam, Carpinus caroliniana

American hornbeam, also known as ironwood or blue-beech, is a small, slow-growing deciduous tree native to the under-story forests of the eastern United States.

In the birch family, American hornbeam features shiny, dark foliage with simple leaves that are 2.5"- 5" long arranged in an alternate fashion. In the fall the leaves turn a very pleasing yellow or orange color. As the tree matures, it forms a spreading, multi-stemmed shape with crooked or drooping branches. The bark is grey in color and smooth, though ridged, resembling the muscles of a flexed arm.

American hornbeam does best on rich sites though is adaptable to a wide array of conditions. Considered pest free.

### **European Hornbeam, Carpinus betulus**



Best in full sun, tolerates light shade. Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions, but prefers well-drained soil. No serious pests or diseases. Similar to the American hornbeam. Hardy to USDA Zone 4 and native to Europe, Asia Minor, southeast England.



## Korean Hornbeam, Carpinus coreana

Korean Hornbeam is a **rapidly growing deciduous large shrub or small tree native to Asia**. It has multiple trunks with a flat-topped to round dense form, pendulous maroon branches and tiny leaves. Plant it in the full sun to partial shade and it withstands a wide variety of soil types though prefers loamy soil. It works well as a specimen in an Asian themed garden and is often used as a bonsai plant. Plant it near a maple tree to highlight the contrast between small and large leaves. It is tolerant of drought, wind, and urban conditions including paving.

Also named Carpinus turczaninovii, it is commonly used for bonsai.







### Hornbeam Bonsai Care guidelines

Hornbeam Bonsai like a sunny or semi-shaded place outside with good aeration. Although very frost-hardy in nature when the roots can reach deep into the ground, it must be protected from frost when planted in containers. Hornbeams must be watered as soon as the soil gets dry. They must never dry out completely, but take care not to overwater them. In Winter keep the soil slightly moist. Don't use very calcareous water.

Apply solid organic fertilizer every four weeks during the growing season or use a liquid fertilizer every week. Take care to provide sufficiently with micronutrients.

Larger branches can be pruned in spring before the new buds open. Large terminal buds can be removed. When the new shoots have matured they are shortened to two leaves. If trees are pruned in autumn or winter take care to keep buds on the twigs or they will dry back. Wiring is possible but you have to remove the wire in time before it bites into the smooth bark and causes ugly scars which will be visible for decades. Guy wires or strings are a good alternative.

Hornbeam bonsai should be repotted every two years in spring before the new buds open. Old trees can be repotted less often.

Hornbeams are often attacked by mealy bugs and powdery mildew. Scale can also occur. In those cases use a specific pesticide and try to improve the growing conditions (more light and aeration) for your tree. Root rot can occur if the tree is overwatered. Permanent watering with very calcareous water can cause chlorosis.

There are six commonly grown hornbeams: European, American, Korean, Farges, Japanese, and Loose-leaf hornbeams. As mentioned on the previous page, Carpinus turczaninovii, Korean hornbeam lends itself to bonsai.



Korean Hornbeam

According to UK located Heron's Bonsai, "Carpinus Coreana or the Korean Hornbeam is an outdoor deciduous bonsai and perhaps the most highly sought after of all the hornbeams. It is an elegant tree with slightly rounded, toothed, glossy dark green leaves, which turn salmon-pink in autumn. Green and yellowish-green catkins are borne in spring. Specimens with thick trunks are particularly impressive. Regular pruning will soon produce an attractive structure of twigs and branches. Good specimens tend to be expensive as they are becoming difficult to import from Japan or Korea. The Korean hornbeam is much appreciate by bonsai enthusiasts and very popular for carving to create striking hollow trunk effects."

Native to China, Japan and Korea, it's hardy in all temperate areas although appreciates being moved to a frost-free greenhouse or shed during prolonged periods of extreme cold weather. It does best if it is kept out in the open and in full sun for the duration of the growing season."

Keep well watered during the growing season, keeping the soil just moist in the winter."

## **Library News**

Finally, the RESERVE feature of our new library software is functioning. Here's how it will work: If you want to reserve a specific book, let me (Jan Hettick) know before the day of the meeting. When the item is returned you will have an opportunity to check it out. You have until 6:30 pm to claim it. If you don't check it out by 6:30, then someone else can take it, and your reservation will extend to the next meeting. If you want to check out an item that has been reserved by someone else, get back with me at 6:30 to see if it was claimed.

Remember, please, that the items you check out are due back prior to 6:45pm the day of the next BSOP meeting. Items checked out at the June meeting will be due back on August 23. You are welcome to renew the items for another month UNLESS there is a reservation. In that case, you have a responsibility to get the item back to BSOP by the start of the next meeting. The library is open from 6:00pm until 6:45pm, when we need to clear the stage for final program set up.

If you have any questions or comments, or to renew your book, magazine or video, my email is <u>janhettick@comcast.net</u>.

Jan Hettick, Assistant Librarian



Hornbeam 20 inches

Hornbeam 21 inches



## Trees For Sale includ-

ing the trees pictured above, evergreens including native, Shimpaku, Itoigawa junipers, various pines, mtn hemlock, spruces, moderately priced. Sizes vary from shohin to large trees. Also varieties of maples

Call 503 704 3891 **Editor** 



### June Haiku

Satsuki bloom late May Flower colors both pink and white What more can you say.

Ron Yasenchak

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6707 SW Pine Street, Portland, OR 97223

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!

#### **Board of Directors**

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Contact information is on the BSOP website www.portlandbonsai.org under

Services/Members Only/Membership Directory