



Brandywine Bonsai Society

September 16, 2006 - 10:00

David Easterbrook on Weeping Style

Where: Hockessin Creative Arts Center

Pre-meeting tree counseling: Charlotte Smith

Cookie Person: Charlotte Smith

The September Meeting

Our guest artist is David Easterbrook. David is the curator of the bonsai collection at the Montreal Botanic Gardens. He will give a program on the Weeping Style. This is probably the first discussion of Weeping Style for Brandywine Bonsai; you won't want to miss it.

Showing Your Trees

With the Longwood show upon us in a couple of months, we are probably looking at our trees to see which will be ready for the event. As happens every year, we have trees that become prime a couple of weeks before the show date, or just after. Don't let that glory only be shown from your bonsai bench. Please bring your trees to the coming meetings and do a Show and Tell for the club.

Help with Your Trees

Charlotte Smith will be on hand before the meeting begins to help novices (preference given), and anyone else, with their trees. This is a good time of the year to undertake certain work, so if you have any questions, bring your trees/and or questions and make the most of what remains of 2006.

Walter Pall Returns

Jim Doyle of Nature's Way Nursery has sent notice that Walter Pall will be giving two workshop sessions there, Sunday, October 29. The morning session will be 9:00 AM to Noon; the afternoon session from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The cost will be \$45 per session. Walter is a highly regarded stylist, and source of horticultural information. If you don't have trees to take, attending as an observer/note-taker would also be worthwhile. Contact Jim at (717) 545-4555, or natureswaybonsai@comcast.net

Directions to Nature's Way Nursery

Take US-202 N and/or PA-100 N. Enter the Pennsylvania Turnpike Westbound (Toll). Go about 65 miles. Take exit number 19, toward I-283 East Harrisburg, Hershey. Follow signs for I-81 N.

Take exit number 72B toward Linglestown. You will be on North Mountain Road. Go one mile to the "town square." At the circle and flagpole, turn right onto Linglestown Road. In 1.5 miles you will see a yellow sign on the left for Nature's Way. Turn left into Nature's Way. Total distance about 100 miles. Estimated Time about 2 hours.

The Longwood Show, November 4-5

Exhibits chair Pat Morris reminds us to be thinking now of which trees to put in the show, and to start grooming them now. Newer members: please take the plunge and put in a tree. It is important for BBS to show the public trees at all stages, and to show that this is an art accessible to all. The October newsletter will contain forms on which you may list the tree(s) you will exhibit, and the hours you are willing to tree sit. A couple of hours of your time, especially Saturday afternoon and evening, and Sunday morning would mean a great deal to the club. We really need at least two members per time slot.

Your Club Needs Your Help

The Chrysanthemum Festival, October 28-November 19, features Experts on Duty. Please consider representing BBS on any of the following Tuesdays, 1 - 4 PM: October 31, November 7, and 14. You will have a station in the Conservatory, and an opportunity not only to get some work done (what about wire removal or, wiring?), and talk to visitors about the art of bonsai. Contact Pat or Nancy.

Bonsai on the Beach, June 21-24, 2007, Virginia Beach, VA

The program for the 2007 ABS program is already in place, and promises to be wonderful. Dorie Froning and Dennis Donald will be a team teaching the intricacies of shohin, and leading a workshop. Many other artists will be sharing knowledge. Check out the website to get detailed information: www.absbonsai.org.

Pat Morris is the ABS national secretary. Talk to her for more information about this important gathering.

Repairing a Shohin Trunk

by Fred Knobloch

This discussion is about how to repair the rotted trunk of a small tree. The tree had a crack that had rotted out and had to be repaired. The materials for this project are easily available from any home supply center.

The first picture is of the tree with the decay removed. Both sides of the trunk were treated with "Minwax Wood Hardener". Note the small feeder root (in center of split trunk) trying to make its way down to the soil.



The void in the trunk was filled with "Great Stuff" foaming caulk. The two trunk halves were then pulled together with twisted wire, (protruding opposite the 02 in the second figure). The caulk will continue to expand for some time and will dry with a smooth exterior and a foam interior. Be sure to use the low-expanding version of "Great Stuff." Keep it off your hands etc., and wear rubber gloves.



After allowing the foam to harden overnight, it can be shaped to the finished dimensions with a coping saw blade or serrated knife. The trimming should be reasonably close to the desired final product,

though the light color of the foam is a bit distracting at this point.



The final trimming is shown in Figure 3. Now a decision must be made as to the final appearance of the tree. In figure 3, this actually looks like shari, though that is a bit tough to pull off up close. At least give it some consideration.

For a rough texture (appropriate in this case); cover with thin layer of waterproof "Gorilla Glue," allow it to dry, and paint to match the existing tree with acrylic stencil paint. For a smooth texture, a thicker coat of glue would be used. One may also apply small pieces of bark to the glue to give a very realistic look. Finally, the jin was whitened to match any new parts that may have been exposed and the finished product is shown.



Looks pretty good doesn't it?

*Stately bamboos sway,
Monarchs end their sojourn as
Colder winds prevail.*