



Brandywine Bonsai Society

October 21st, 2006 - 10:00

Brandywine Town Center

Andy Walsh on "Winter Storage"

Pre-Meeting Bonsai Counseling: Dennis Donald

Cookie Person: John Jennings

The October Program - Andy Walsh, who was last October's speaker on the subject of winter storage (when Steve Ittel bravely stepped in to do Andy's Power Point program – Andy deadlocked in traffic), is going to be with us this time to present the full program and fill in the blanks. Those of us who attended the last program know that Andy gave us a wealth of information even in those circumstances. There were lots of questions. Now they can be answered.

We are on the verge of all the winter storage considerations. This is a program you don't want to miss.

The Annual Show at Longwood Gardens – November 4 and 5 - Please respond as soon as possible to the enclosed forms regarding the Longwood Show. Members who are new to bonsai are urged to participate: it is important that the club show the public that there are many stages of bonsai mastery.

In addition to showing trees, the club urgently needs members to give time to tree-sit during the weekend. Usually there are many volunteers for the Saturday hours right after the show opens, and the Sunday hours before the show closes. Please consider working during the other time periods. The exhibit is spread over a large area and there are more guests, so we will also need more volunteers for watching.

Contact Pat Morris, exhibits chair, promptly.

Chinese Floral Arts Foundation - The Chinese Floral Arts Foundation of Taipei, Taiwan, for the first time in 15 years, will be presenting programs at Longwood Gardens from Friday, October 27 to Sunday, October 29, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

The BBS Lending Library

The content of our lending library, particularly video-tapes is low. If you have taken a film, looked at it, and then forgotten month after month to return it, please make every effort now to see that it gets back into circulation. The same holds for the books. This is an honor system; it is important that each of us makes it work and make these important sources of information available to others in the club.

From Pauline Muth and the Mohawk/Hudson Bonsai Society Newsletter

Even though we bear in mind how much further north Pauline plies the art of bonsai (north of Albany, NY), her short-cuts and advice are welcome. Pauline wrote in the October newsletter that she employs a three-color "cocktail" marker system for tagging her trees at the end of the season. Trees sporting a red tag must be repotted in spring. Trees with a green marker are let off: all is well, no repotting. A yellow marker means the tree must be repotted, restyled; in other words, major work required. Trees with a yellow tag will be designated for winter work and accordingly stored to be easily accessible.

Meanwhile, this is a good time for work on pines: choose styles, pluck needles, and wire.

A Service for Newer/Less Experienced

Members : Hands-On Help - It has been a year since we started our Hands-On Help for new members. Twenty minutes to half an hour before each meeting, an experienced member is available to counsel newer members about their trees. Response has been very favorable. We encourage more new members to avail themselves of the service.

Notes from Nancy

Store this information away for next year.

This past season, we've been fortunate to receive lots of information, lavishly illustrated, about all aspects of bonsai training from Fred Knobloch. The following is an expansion of information Fred gave us about protecting our trees during some of the worst summer weather we experience. We're going to have heat waves again, and, this coming winter and spring will be a good time to prepare.

Hot Pots: *Trying to garden in containers where summer temperatures can reach more than 100 degrees F requires creative thinking. To protect fragile roots from baking in hot container soil, place a planted container inside a slightly larger, unplanted one. Fill the gap between the two with extra potting mix or moist sphagnum moss. A cheaper method is to line the inside of a container with bubble wrap or strips of shade cloth. Both provide an effective barrier between the hot container sides and the plants needing to be nursed through the heat.*

from [Fine Gardening](#)

I've begun setting aside some plastic containers that will be especially useful for protecting kusamomo – plastic fruit jelly (candy) containers from Trader Joes -- and will be looking for others. Of course, drainage holes will be added. Please inform the editor of your extraordinary finds.

Lovely Trees - At the last meeting, we were treated to a variety of beautiful trees. First, our guest artist, David Easterbrook, took a rather



Before

unruly willow and trimmed and bent it into a weeping style, something often missing from our collections. David is the curator of the bonsai collection at the Montreal Botanic Gardens



After

He reminded us that there is a reason that a tall thin figure is described as “willowy” and that contrary to all other trees, one should not aspire to a weeping style willow with a substantial trunk. Keep it trim and sensuous.

At the end of the meeting, Charlotte Smith showed a tree in its prime – a small, exposed-root semi-cascade winterberry. This is a



reminder that we would appreciate a brief show-and-tell at any meeting, so if you have a plant at its prime, please bring it in for all to see.