



Brandywine Bonsai Society

(EMAIL: BrandywineBonsai@comcast.net)

Meeting: April 15, 2006 10:00

Where: Brandywine Town Center

Subject: Dennis Donald on Quince

Cookie Person: Dominick Haigh

Pre-meeting bonsai help: Charlotte Smith

**This issue is bursting with information.
Be sure you read it all!!!!**

April Meeting: Dennis Donald on Quince.

Chaenomeles is a garden shrub with which many may be familiar. It flowers on old branches in late winter and early spring before leaves emerge. Usually it is a subject for clump-style bonsai.

Pseudocydonia sinensis is more tree-like than *Chaenomeles*. The mottled bark of the trunk: ochre, pink, and green, are a winter image.

We will learn the characteristics of these quinces, and then work on our specimens in the afternoon workshop. Brown bagging is advisable.

New this Month

Charlotte Smith has volunteered to meet with any members new to bonsai who need help with their trees. Look for her in a quiet corner of the BTC meeting room 45 minutes before the start of the regular meeting.

The suggestion to offer this service came from Pat Morris, and it is an experiment. Help will be available at three more meetings this year; thereafter, the officers and counselors will evaluate and determine whether to continue or not. Note to other members: The time for helping is brief, so please leave the counselors alone to work with those needing advice.

Further. Newcomers to bonsai may also wish to take advantage of the classes being offered at Rosade Bonsai Studio on the following dates: Tuesday, May 16; Saturday, May 27; Saturday June 10; Saturday, July 8; Sunday, September 17; Sunday, October 21; and Saturday, November 4. The classes are

limited to eight participants. The \$135.00 fee includes instruction, use of tools, bonsai container, and plant material. Bring your lunch. Classes are from 9AM to 5 PM. Rosade Bonsai Studio, 6912 Ely Road, New Hope, PA 18938; info@rosadebonsai.com; www.rosadebonsai.com

Member Appreciation

April will be the time for a drawing for a Member Appreciation gift. All you need to do is to attend, and be sure that you get a ticket from Brad. Good luck!

A Message from Barbara Billet

Dear Members of the Brandywine Bonsai Society,

Thank you for all of your support and caring since Jack's passing on to his next adventure.

I have been simply overwhelmed by all of the love and tributes heaped upon Jack, and I'm certain he is overwhelmed also.

Jack loved the art of Bonsai and his many friends in the bonsai community were very important to him. He also enjoyed sharing the knowledge acquired over the years, even though – the more he learned, the more humbled he was by how much he had yet to learn.

All of you brought pleasure to Jack's life, each in your own special way. Wishing you all continued success as the Brandywine Bonsai Society continues to spread that pleasure and the joy of something as beautiful as friendship and Bonsai.

*Love,
Barbara*

Memorials for Jack Billet

The officers, after numerous discussions, propose the following for the membership to consider and vote on at the April meeting:

First, in accordance with family wishes that gifts be given in Jack's name to the National Bonsai Foundation in Washington, the officers, following a suggestion made by Charlotte Smith, propose that a box be made available during the April and May meetings for members to give whatever cash gifts they see fit/are able. All gifts would be anonymous. Members who cannot attend these meetings but wish to contribute could send their contributions to Brad Taylor, treasurer.

Second, the officers propose that the January meeting of each year be designated the Jack Billet Memorial Meeting: Winter Silhouette. These meetings have gained momentum in the past several years - attendance has increased, sharing of advice and insights has increased, and there has been marked fellowship – what more is in the spirit of Jack? Remembrances of Jack would appear in the newsletter and at the beginning of the January meeting.

Our Assignment at the MABS Festival Weekend

Our exhibit security time slot is Saturday, 3 to 4:00 PM. As you remember, there are two rooms to keep track of, so we need at least two members who can watch trees for half an hour in each room. Or, it would be optimal if there could be four of us, each spending a total of half an hour. Please contact Nancy if you are willing to help. If you are exhibiting a tree, the rule is iron-clad: No trees to be removed until noon Sunday.

Colin Lewis at Natures Way

Nature's Way will hold a special Open House May 12-13 featuring Colin Lewis. Colin was a guest artist with BBS two years ago; his program and critiques were very well received. If you can attend the programs on either day, you will find it worth your while. Those of you who would like to receive email announcements of specials and programs at Nature's Way, let Jim and Mary Kay know at the following: natureswaybonsai@comcast.net; subject, email list.

Jim has invited attendees to bring with them a tree for Colin's critique. The invitation stands whether you are a beginner, or are quite advanced in the art. This is a Not To Be Missed opportunity.

Martha Meehan at Waterloo Gardens,

Martha will present a program on bonsai care, Saturday, April 8. The fee is \$40.00. Call Waterloo Gardens (Exton, PA) for further information, (610) 363-0800. Martha, of Meehan's Miniatures, Rohrer'sville, MD, was a guest artist at BBS three years ago. She presented a program on companion plants; during the afternoon, we created our own arrangements. She is a lively, interesting, and very knowledgeable speaker

Notes from Nancy

Start Small. If you find a possible bonsai subject that is a small form to begin with, you will be ahead of the training game. When you are browsing in the nurseries, keep these names in mind. (Other species lists will appear in later newsletters.)

Ilex crenata 'Dwarf Pagoda'

Ilex crenata 'Helleri'

Ilex crenata Mariesii

Ilex crenata vomitoria nana (dwarf yaupon)

Cryptomeria Japonica 'Elegans Nana'
(dwarf Japanese cedar)

Cryptomeria Japonica 'Globosa Nana'

Cryptomeria Japonica 'Jindai-Sugi'

Cryptomeria Japonica 'Knaptonensis'

Cryptomeria Japonica 'Vilmoriana'

Treasuring Bonsai. A famous 15th century Japanese play tells of an impoverished samurai who burns his favorite bonsai to warm the hands of a stranger on a cold winter's night. That the Japanese regarded this as a major sacrifice by the samurai reflects their great love for these artistically trained shrubs and trees.

A Down-Home Care Tip: Use the type of roller that you use on your clothing to remove pet hair, your hair, and other matter, on the leaves of your bonsai to remove aphids. Maybe it would work on webby critters as well.

Swaying in the breeze

Spikes of grape hyacinth

Waltz with golden jonquils.

T. Renrut