



Brandywine Bonsai Society

Where: Brandywine Town Center

When: Saturday, January 17, 2009, 10:00 am

Subject: Annual Jack Billet Memorial Meeting on Winter Silhouette

Jack Billet Winter Silhouette Meeting – This meeting has been held for several years now, and has proved an opportunity for fellowship and sharing of bonsai and presentation knowledge. Jack was a founding member of the Brandywine Bonsai Society and was all about sharing knowledge and fellowship. His humor, and unfailing willingness to instruct (done lightly!) are sorely missed. Jack's knowledge of horticulture, and his styling abilities earned him the respect of bonsai masters nation wide.

Bring a tree out of winter storage and share it with the club. You may show it whether or not it is well potted, and whether or not you can mount a full presentation. We will want to know what you envision for the tree, and anything of interest that you can share about pots, stands, and modes of presentation. You will find that other members will have much that is worthwhile to give back to you.

Pre-Meeting Tree Counseling – Our pre-meeting tree counseling has proven to be reasonably useful, so we are continuing the practice in 2009. More experienced club members will be on hand to give advice about growing practices and styling, so don't miss this opportunity. Though this service is directed mostly to new and inexperienced members, old hands might like to bounce ideas about, too. This month, it could be a warm-up for the main meeting.

Membership renewal time is here - Please return forms with dues as soon as possible. The can be returned to Steve Ittel or Greg Kanaskie. The deadline for renewing is the end of March. It is important that we know the membership roster by then, and have our finances in order.

The MABS Spring Festival is being held a week earlier than usual this year. It will be Friday April 17 through Sunday April 19, once again at the Hudson Valley Resort & Spa, 400 Granite Road, Kerhonkson, NY.

The visiting artists will be Isao Omachi of Japan, Farrand Bloch from Holland, David

Easterbrook from Canada, and Susan Amoy from New York. The array of vendors who offer a full range of pots, stands, tools, soils, and plant materials represent the most in-depth shopping you could wish.

Registration forms will be available at the coming meeting. Please pick up the form bearing your name so that we know which members must receive their copies by mail.

Each MABS member society is asked to contribute three trees to the exhibit. Please consider whether you could participate on our club's behalf.

Directions to the Brandywine Town Center Meeting Hall

The meeting hall is a stand-alone building, removed from the commercial area, with a large glass dome on top.

From Route 202 Southbound: Shortly after crossing into Delaware on Route 202 southbound, turn left onto Naamans Road at the intersection bounded by an Exxon station and the Days Inn. At the second light, turn left into the Brandywine Town Center (You will see a large Target store) and follow the outer parking lot road right to the meeting hall.

From I-95 Northbound and 202 Northbound: Take Exit 8 Concord Pike North. Just beyond Concord Mall at the Days Inn, turn right onto Naamans Road and follow the directions above.

From I-95 Southbound: Take the I-495 and Naamans Road exit just after passing into Delaware. Take Naamans Road westbound. After passing Grubb Road, you will take the next right into Brandywine Town Center. Look for the meeting center described above but you will go left on the circling road.

Air Layering Continued – On the next page we have photographic documentation of Ski Dombrovski's air-layering of a Japanese maple that was initiated at the March 2007 meeting. It also shows another example of Ski's tripod stabilization of a tree. The tree is coming along nicely.



Illustration 1: This is the tree that was air-layered at the BBS club meeting March 2007.



Illustration 2: The air-layered portion of the tree was cut off. The bag was left on to protect the roots while cutting.



Illustration 3: This shows the rootball with the bag removed.



Illustration 4: This shows the cut on the parent tree



Illustration 5: Have the pot, soil and all necessary materials ready.



Illustration 6: The rootball ready for potting, the soil was removed without cutting any roots.



Illustration 7: The cleaned root system is set into the training pot. The tripod is used for stability.



Illustration 8: Potting complete. At this time, no wiring is done. Unless the branches are excessively long, do not cut anything, as we want roots to grow.