



Brandywine Bonsai Society

Date: **Sunday, June 27, 2010**

A Day with Ted Matson, 10:00 AM

Brandywine Town Center, Naamans Road

Ted Matson Returns

Sunday, June 27, BBS will hold another daylong styling workshop with master bonsai artist Ted Matson. We will follow the format we used two years ago. There will be a first round to evaluate the material and decide on a course of action followed by a second round to comment on the work accomplished.

Ted has been pursuing bonsai studies for more than 30 years, and began his career with direction from Ben Suzuki, the Nagatoshi's, Melba Tucker, Warren Hill, and John Naka. During this time he has been part of and led various bonsai societies and publications in California, and has been sought after to present demonstrations and workshops at conventions all over the country. In addition, he has offered private instruction.

Shohin bonsai have become more and more popular in recent years; much credit must go to Ted. If you have trees or starter material in this size category, bring them to the workshop. All workshop trees need not be large – though Ted is prepared for anything. He says he considers one of his strengths as a teacher is to help students develop an eye for selecting material and then develop a good design.

Please also bring newspaper, plastic sheeting, or other material to cover your workspace and thus aid in clean-up. Bring a note pad and pen, and prepare to listen to what he has to say about all the trees; he is a Niagara Falls of information that you won't want to miss. Please: in fairness to all members, present just one tree at a time for Ted's review and help. If there is time, bring out your additional tree(s).

The usual club offering of cookies and other sustenance will not be available at this meeting, though there will be coffee. If you will need a snack to carry yourself through, please provide them.

Ask Yourself: Did I pay my dues for 2010?

We still have members who have forgotten to pay their dues. Please put a string around your finger (or whatever method for remembering works for you), and see that the money is gotten to Greg Kanaskie at the coming meeting, or mail it to him.

The Picnic/Auction

July 17 is the date for the always fun-filled picnic/auction. One again, unrivaled auctioneer Dennis Donald will be at the helm with humor and useful information about the items offered.

Though we had a slow start this late winter and spring getting our trees out of storage and starting work, there has been time to look them over and decide what works for your collection and what could profitably find a home with someone else. The same can be said for pots, tools, and many other items. Start sorting and cleaning.

Further news about the picnic/auction will be appearing soon.

MegaMall Japan

There is an interesting new website called <http://megamalljapan.com/index.html>. They have listed Brandywine and many other clubs in the bonsai section that can be found at http://megamalljapan.com/japanesebonsai_org_info.html

Brandywine River Museum Show

The annual spring show at the Brandywine River Museum was tempered by a weather threat that never really materialized. Hats off to Pat Morris – she did a great job getting it organized and put in an inordinate amount of time. Also, thanks to those who showed trees, babysat trees and gave demonstrations. We had an outstanding selection of trees that were certainly appreciated by the public. As a result of the weather threat, the trees were kept under shelter so there was never a good opportunity to take pictures. As a result, they will be absent from this newsletter.

Ski and Wisteria

Ski put together his usual great program on a particular species. This year, he surrounded himself with wisteria.

Little tidbits from the lecture included the fact that the branches of the wisteria native of China (*Wisteria sinensis*) wrap from left to right in an counterclockwise direction whereas the wisteria from Japan (*Wisteria floribunda*) twist in a clockwise direction from right to left. Thus they can be differentiated easily. Japanese wisteria blossom earlier before there is much leafing, but Chinese wisteria flower a little later and there is simultaneous greenery.



American wisteria are a bit harder in this area. Kentucky wisteria are essentially the same as American wisteria, but they have no fragrance. It was interesting to smell the differences between the various plants Ski and others brought in, but I do not remember any that were free of scent.

Ski styled a number of plants – his own and those of others. Also remember – no nitrogen if you want blossoms – but that blossoms are particularly difficult on younger Japanese and Chinese wisteria, so be patient. All of you should try to remember that we want all of the plants to come back to BBS, probably for our October meeting, so that we can see how they are all doing.

Thanks from Pat

A HUGE “Thank You” to all who helped make the Brandywine River Museum Show a success. From the initial setup, to the take-down with storms threatening to run everyone off, it was an outstanding weekend. We dodged the storms by the barest of margins, but fortunately they turned out to be much less than the forecasters had suggested. The contributions of ALL involved are much appreciated. THANK YOU.

-Pat Morris

