



# Brandywine Bonsai Society

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Meeting: July 17, 2010 10:30

## Picnic and Auction Anson Nixon Park, Kennett Square, PA -- Pavilion 1

### July BBS Picnic

We will be meeting in Pavilion 1 - our old location - this year. Go to the normal parking lot. Lets try to beat the heat. We are asking people to arrive at the park between 10:00 and 10:45 AM to bring in their auction items and see to them being arranged for viewing. The auction will begin at 11:00 AM and continue until about noon. We will break for lunch, and then polish off the auction. This way, our intrepid auctioneer gets a planned-upon break, and we may not go so far into the afternoon.

Charlotte Smith has undertaken the job of hoagie manager again this year. Many thanks, Charlotte! Again this year, the club will underwrite your lunch, a Capriotti hoagie. If you do not wish to have a hoagie, you should arrange your own food. Also: Please do not arrive at the picnic and expect to find food if you haven't ordered. To control costs, we are going to bring only what is requested. To be clear: the food offering is only hoagies or what you provide for yourself.

Charlotte asks that you contact her by phone. Call (302) 733-7601. Do not think of calling after July 14!

All Capriotti hoagies contain Provolone cheese, lettuce, onions and tomatoes. No substitutions or deletions, please. Your choices are: 1. homemade turkey; 2. homemade roast beef; 3. Italian; 4. ham and cheese; 5. Tuna; 6. Genoa salami; 7. Capicola; 8. cheese; or 9. Prosciutini. Pat Morris will be providing her famous ginger iced tea. There will also be water and chips.

### The Auction

The money raised at the picnic/auction goes entirely to the club. This is in contrast to the silent auctions that we have at almost every regular meeting. Therefore, aside from dues and any unexpected gifts, the picnic/auction is the club's major source of revenue.

Should you bring an item for auction that you think should not sell for less than \$50.00, put a tag on it that says \$50.00 reserve. If the sum of \$50.00 or more is raised, the club will get 30%, and you will take 70%.

A perspective on money: Numbers of our members attended the Day with Ted Matson in June, and were enthusiastic about it. Brandywine Bonsai made the time available to all club members who cared to attend. Some clubs that Ted has visited charge members a special fee for that workshop, and make it a general practice to charge for workshops with guest artists.



Brandywine has tried as much as possible to avoid special fees, but we can only do that if we get support at such times as the picnic/auction. So please take a long look at your tools, pots, trees, stands, stones, books, and anything else that you think would help/appeal to other club members. Keep in mind our newer members who need training pots and tools. Steve Ittel will be bringing some of his hand-crafted pots, and new this year – his handcrafted slabs of varying sizes. He is also bringing maples, junipers, and more.

Dennis Donald, again, has agreed to be our auctioneer – a thousand thanks, Dennis! New members are in for a treat; older hands look forward to the humor and solid information that Dennis offers with each item.

The auction will begin at 11:00 AM, break for lunch, and resume for whatever time is necessary.

### **Directions to Anson B. Nixon Park**

Head south on Route 1 in PA, take the Kennett Square exit and drive into town on State Street. Turn right onto Walnut Road, near the bottom of the hill. (The Kennett Square YMCA is opposite.) You will soon see the sign for the Anson B. Nixon Park on the left. Park in the main parking lot.

Members coming through Kennett Square from the opposite direction on Cypress St. can take the first street on the left after the YMCA, drive one block, and cross over State St. onto Walnut Road.

### **Ted Matson on Lime Sulfur**

I had an interesting discussion with Ted about the use of lime sulfur on dead-wood. He acknowledged that we here on the East Coast are a little hesitant to use it because it turns the wood so white. The stark white is something that we never see in the East, but he mentioned that when he gets to the timberline in California, deadwood on trees at that elevation is very white. This is a result of the increased exposure to the bleaching ultra-violet radiation at those altitudes.

Nonetheless, our taste should be taken into consideration. The lime sulfur is a good

preservative for the wood, so it should be applied to exposed dead-wood. Application should be with a fine brush, taking care not to get any lime sulfur onto live wood. Tone down the lime sulfur application with a wash of dilute India ink to take the surface to a more silvery-grey. If you want to pay particular attention to detail and your specimen is old enough to be showing checkering of the older exposed wood, have a second wash of India ink available that is slightly darker than the first. This should be applied to the older wood so that it can soak into the cracks. This will accent the checkering but otherwise will not be noticed, thereby contributing even more to the apparent age of the wood.

Do not mix the India ink into the lime sulfur to try to do everything in one step. They do not mix well and there will be some separation during application onto the wood. This will result in a blotchy appearance that is un-natural and not very nice.

