



# BRANDYWINE BONSAI SOCIETY



## Annual Billet/Froning/Morris Memorial Meeting on Winter Silhouette

Brandywine Town Center

Saturday, January 19, 2019, 10:00 am

Pre-meeting tree counseling will be available

Since 2007, our January meetings have been dedicated to the memory of a number of our founding members. Club members are asked to select deciduous trees out of winter storage for display in their winter silhouette when the underlying structure of the tree is most visible. We can discuss the future direction of the tree as it develops.

These programs have been occasions for exchange of knowledge about many species, and about the traditions of display. This has been one of our most popular programs and new members are urged to attend to get a valuable overview not only of the art of bonsai but also the development of deciduous trees when their full ramification can be observed.

The fellowship and learning that are hallmarks of these meetings are much in the spirit of the contributions of Jack Billet, Dorie Froning and Pat Morris. Many of us have fond memories of their unfailing willingness to share their great knowledge of horticulture and styling, as well as their respectful support of our efforts. As we are thinking and planning for the bonsai ahead, keep in mind Jack's admonition if we hesitate to make a big styling or horticultural decision: "If not now, when?" Many times he bolstered spirits and kept members from losing another season to faintheartedness.

### Membership

The January meeting would be a good time to fill out the attached membership form and pay our low annual dues. Return the form and your remittance to Greg Kanaskie or Steve Ittel and relax – you won't have to think about it again for another year! No wondering in late spring if you did or didn't.

It is important that we receive a form from each of you simply as a matter of bookkeeping. 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.

Participation in the silent auctions (and there will be some important ones starting in January this year) and the big July picnic/auction requires current membership. Don't be left out!

### 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. These directions and a detailed map are available all the time on the directions page of the new BBS Website.

### Pre-Meeting Tree Counseling

We are continuing our custom of having pre-meeting tree counseling. It has proven to be useful and enjoyable for all involved, but we would like to make the process a bit more

Brandywine Bonsai Society founded 1967. [BrandywineBonsai@Comcast.net](mailto:BrandywineBonsai@Comcast.net)

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formalized. We would like to identify the more experienced club members who would be willing to be on hand to give advice about growing practices and styling. We will designate an area for a “Speed-Dating” process to connect those who want help with those who can provide help.

Though this service is directed mostly to new and inexperienced members, old hands might like to bounce ideas about, too. And it is an opportunity for those who have some experience to test their skills or thoughts by commenting in front of an experienced member. All will certainly learn. This month, it is a warm-up for the main portion of the meeting so don't miss this opportunity.

### 2019 Brandywine Bonsai Schedule

The preliminary schedule for this year's meetings is as follows:

**January 19** – Annual Silhouette Discussion – BTC

**February 16** – Lecture or demo to be determined - BTC (We are trying to arrange an international artist)

**March 16** – Greg Kanaskie on “The Twelve Taboo Branches” - BTC

*February and March programs could be interchanged as we continue to make arrangements*

**April 12-14** – Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Festival – Everyone is going to go! Aren't you?

**April 20** – Our normal meeting date is Easter Saturday so no meeting that day.

**April 27** – A dig near Lancaster – Unofficial activity – Get dirty. Details to follow and dependent upon not sinking into the mud too deep.

**May 18** – Fred Knobloch – Visit his collection

**June 15** – Maybe Kevin Bielicki on Refinement of a Tree – BTC

**July 20** – Anson Nixon Park Annual picnic and auction

**August 17** – Anson Nixon Park Juniper styling tag team style

**September 21** – Lecture or demo to be determined? Trip? BTC

**October 26-27** – Longwood show (Presumed dates)

**November 16** – End of year “rummage sale” – BTC

Some additional thoughts about meetings. We would appreciate your input.

- 1) What junipers would you like to use for the tag team in August? We have a source of reasonably large procumbens nana. Most work well but some can have trunk issues. At

a higher price-point, Liz has some shimpaku available in a variety of sizes.

- 2) What about short-notice, pop-up meetings sometime as circumstances allow?

### MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies

The annual MABS Spring Festival commences on Friday evening, April 12, 2019 and continues through Sunday afternoon, April 14. Renowned international professional bonsai artists present lecture/demonstrations, workshops, and critiques of bonsai. TAIGA URUSHIBATA is representing Japan, MARC NOELANDERS is representing Europe, and JENNIFER PRICE is representing the USA.

Registrants have weekend-long opportunities to observe and spend time with the artists at breakout sessions between demonstrations, and to view the MABS member clubs' Bonsai Exhibit.

A wide range of bonsai vendors are on site offering a large selection of bonsai, bonsai-related plants, containers, tools, books and other supplies. Each featured guest artist presents two lecture/demonstrations. Each bonsai creation is raffled following the completion of styling by its respective artist. There are also silent auctions and a very active live auction of donated bonsai materials at the Saturday night banquet.

Details can be found at

<http://midatlanticbonsai.org/guest%20artists.htm>

And it is possible to register online at:

<http://midatlanticbonsai.org/digitalreg.htm>

We are looking for volunteers to show trees at the display, so it is time to start thinking about whether you have anything that can be in shape to show. There will be further descriptions of the meeting in future newsletters.

### The Weather

Last year, I mentioned the longest and coldest spell that my trees had ever seen. This year, I am wondering if it is winter yet, though we did have one early snow. The garage for winter storage is staying open at times to keep the temperatures low enough.

### Inclement Weather Notifications

Should we have snow or other inclement weather for a meeting, please check your email for a late announcement. We will try to get the email announcements out with ample warning, but once in a while we get surprised. You can call Steve Ittel at 302 778-4546 as a last resort. I leave pretty early for meetings to get that essential coffee brewing, but my wife will patiently answer the phone.