



# Brandywine Bonsai Society

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Meeting: April 23, 2011 10:00am

Where: Brandywine Town Center

Subject: **Ski Dombrovski on Crape Myrtle**

Cookies: Mela Koussis Pre-Meeting tree counseling: Ittel, Donald and more

**Please note that the April meeting is the fourth rather than the normal third Saturday of the month due to the MidAtlantic Bonsai Society meeting.**

## **Ski Will Keep Us from Committing Crape Murder (the wrongful pruning of a beautiful plant)**

(Nancy could not help herself from committing this pun)

Ski will lead us in a program about the care and styling of crape myrtles. Several members are in line with their crape-myrtle-bonsai-to-be. If this is a plant that you've always wanted to add to your collection (interesting branching, beautiful mottled bark, flowers), but you don't yet have one, there is time to go shopping. An increasing number of nurseries in our part of the country are offering the large sizes, but also dwarfs such as Chickasaw.

This will be an A to Z program as only Ski gives us so come prepared to absorb a lot of information.

If you need further persuasion, see the wonderful crape myrtle in the Longwood Gardens Bonsai Collection (pictured in winter silhouette). There will be several crepe myrtles for sale at the meeting

## **A Stellar Date in Late March**

Dorie Froning, the founder of the Brandywine Bonsai Society, celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday this past March 26. Though she humorously maintained that she really is only 89, she allowed friends and family to celebrate the year 90.

Dorie is a world-known authority on shohin bonsai. She has travelled and lectured



widely on this subject. For many years, she wrote a column, "Dorie's Shohin Bonsai Tips" that appeared in the journal International Bonsai. Several of her exquisite creations are now at home at the National Bonsai Foundation in Washington, DC.

Not only did she found BBS, with her close friend Jack Billet, she gave generously of her time and efforts to lead club programs and workshops, and to host meetings. Many of us can think longingly of the meetings when Dorie manned one station and Jack another, and we brought them our trees for comment and direction. Those were well-attended meetings!

It isn't too late to extend birthday wishes. Send cards to her at 1825 Lovering Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19806.

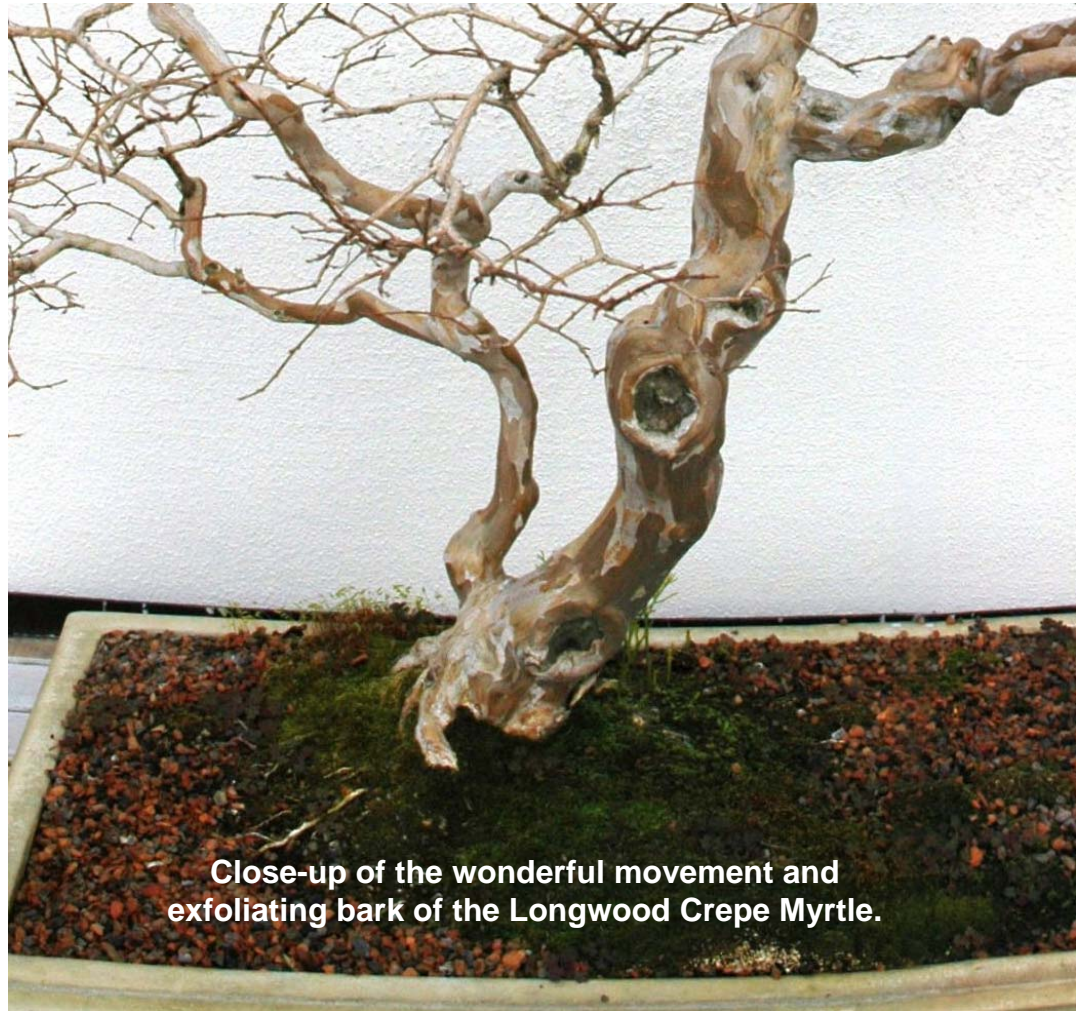
**May and June will also be Unusual Months – Make Calendar Entries**

Please note that the club will not be gathering at the BTC for the May 21 meeting. We will be guests to visit the Kennett Collection of Douglas Paul – one of the most outstanding bonsai collections in the US. Directions will be given in the next newsletter. If you wish to be part of the event, be prompt. We will be entering as a group. Also, parking is limited, so please carpool if possible.

Another change will be our June meeting. It will be Friday evening, June 12 at 7:00 PM at the BTC. The guest artist will be Lo Minh Hsuan from Taiwan. Lo is a world-recognized artist, winner of many prizes, among them the JAL award. Look him up on the Internet to get a flavor of his work.

**Don't Get too Mad, Get to MABS**

You can still arrange to attend the MABS Spring Festival. Go to the MABS website at: <http://midatlanticbonsai.freesevers.com/fescu rr.htm> . The 28th annual MABS Spring Festival will commence Friday evening, April 15, and will continue through Sunday afternoon, April 17, at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey hotel in PA. In addition to the bonsai vendors and presentations by guest artists, there is a great bonsai exhibition. For those of you who do not want to stay overnight, you might also want to



**Close-up of the wonderful movement and exfoliating bark of the Longwood Crepe Myrtle.**

consider a day trip since the meeting is so convenient. The vendors and exhibition are excellent and alone make the trip worthwhile.

**Nature's Way**

May 7 will be Nature's Way 38<sup>th</sup> Open House, and will feature Ryan Neal. There will be workshops May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and of course, there is the great shopping! See <http://www.natureswaybonsai.com/open.htm>