



Brandywine Bonsai Society

(EMAIL: BrandywineBonsai@comcast.net)

Meeting: July 16, 2011 10:30am set-up and previews

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

July BBS Picnic

Bravo and Thanks to Joe Germano who has undertaken the job of organizing the food (a job of utmost importance!) for this year's picnic/auction. Please give him your cooperation. To that end: Please do not come to the picnic and expect to find food you haven't ordered. Food will be ordered for members only. If you do not wish to have a hoagie, you must provide your own food.

Joe requests that all orders be placed by July 12. You may reach him at the link joegermano2@verizon.net, or (302) 475-0344.

All hoagies contain provolone cheese, lettuce, onions, and tomatoes. No substitutions or deletions. Your choices are: 1 turkey, 2 roast beef, 3 Italian, 4 ham & cheese, 5 tuna, 6 genoa salami, 7 capocola, 8 cheese, 9 prosciutini. Water and chips also will accompany the hoagie (subs for some of us) feast.

A few people have not renewed membership. If you are unclear whether you are eligible to attend this event, check with Steve Ittel and put yourselves in good standing.

The club underwrites this event as a thank-you for members who participate and support club endeavors all during the year.

The Auction

This year's auction will focus heavily on items from the estates of Lee Shipman and Pat Morris, as well as contributions from other members. One of the main objectives is to get Pat's remaining trees into the hands of BBS members (*and off Dennis Donald's and Steve Ittel's tables*). There will also be stands, pots and books from Pat's collection.

As always, the money raised at this event goes entirely to the club. This is, apart from dues, our main source of revenue. Please support your club.

If 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. At your option, if the sum of \$50.00 or more is raised, the club will get 30%, and the donor will receive 70%; otherwise, the donor will take back the item.

Once again, Dennis Donald will be our auctioneer. New members are in for a treat, and longer term members look forward to his humor and unparalleled information.

The auction will begin at 11:00 AM, break for lunch at noon, and resume for the remainder.

A perspective on money: We have had several guest speakers over the last several years and those speakers are not inexpensive. Brandywine Bonsai made the time available to all club members who cared to attend. Other local clubs 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. And finally, when it comes time to bid, we sincerely appreciate your support for the club.

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.



Maintaining Your Bonsai (*Bonsai Today*, 1997-3, p. 55)

Though the time for preparing soil and repotting is late, here is something to think about: *Selection of the Type of Soil Depends on the Level of Attention You Can Provide.*

In the soil in which bonsai live, it is essential to have not only water, but also to have air.

If the soil is always saturated with water, the roots cannot breathe, and end up rotting. For that reason, it is necessary that the soil retain water, but also that it drain well. A good soil mix ought to meet these two conditions.

What is the best soil mix for your trees?

It depends not only on the locale, the species, condition and maturity of the tree, but also it depends on the amount of attention that fits in with your lifestyle.

Naturally, if you are always at home and can water several times a day, use a mix that drains rapidly.

If you are very busy and cannot water with the necessary frequency, a soil mix that retains more water should be used.

For a soil to drain well, use a fine granulated soil; for it to drain even more rapidly, use coarse grained soil.

By combining coarse and fine granules, you can regulate drainage and aeration.

Programs for 2012

Planning for next year is underway, and some programs are in place. If you have any suggestions, please pass them along to the officers. Given peoples' schedules, making arrangements a year or more in advance is a necessity.

