



Brandywine Bonsai Society

September 17, 2011 - 10:00am

Ski Dombrovski Does Quince

Brandywine Town Center

Pre-meeting tree counseling: Fred Knobloch

Cookie Person: Kathy Lorentson

The September Meeting

September is the month for some hard work on quince, which may be a bit frightening to bonsai-newcomers. Dr. Ski will tell all and lead us through the steps to get the best from this beautiful flowering plant. If you have quince in your collection, bring them to share information and examples with the group. This will be a great opportunity to learn about a tree that does not appear regularly at our shows.

A Special Fall Expedition

An exhibit, Flaming Trees and Frozen Mums, will be mounted by the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum, October 15 to November 13, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Trees with striking fall colors and fruit will be shown in formal displays along with stones from China and Japan that appear to contain frozen or fossilized flowers. Trees and stones are from the Museum's collection. The exhibit is free.

Also on November 13, 1 to 3 pm, the Museum is offering a workshop on overwintering bonsai. In addition to top-notch information, you will get a behind-the-scenes tour of areas usually never seen by visitors. Fee: \$12, or \$10 for members. Registration required.

To get further information:

www.usna.usda.gov, or (202) 245-4523.

Tips on Improving Our Bonsai from Bonsai Today, 1997-3

Many pots have been available to the club during this past year thanks to the estates of Lee Shipman and Pat Lucke Morris, and there are more to come. Here are some points to keep in mind when you are looking and bidding.

“Relationship Between the Size of Pots and Trees.

“It is important to select the right-sized pot for each tree. If a pot is relatively large, the roots will grow more and will accelerate the growth of the tree. A small pot will restrain the growth of the tree.

“For that reason, if a tree is still in the phase of training trunk or branches, keep it in a large pot and only when its development is complete put it in a smaller final pot.

“The soil in small pots dries out more rapidly so you have to pay more attention to watering so that there will be no imbalance between evaporation from the leaves and water supplied by the roots.

“If you cannot water on a regular basis, you have to think up some way of preventing a lack of water.”

Speaking of Pots

One can never have too many pots. As noted above, one should have over-sized pots for when one is growing and training a tree. Then later one must have just the right pot for that tree. But we never have “just the right pot” because we don't have enough choices.

This is long-winded segue for letting you know that those pots will once again be available at the next meeting. Steve Ittel has been cleaning and cataloging Pat Morris's pots and a good selection of them will be available at the next meeting. Some of these will be quite nice pots from North American potters and others are Japanese and Chinese. Remember that all proceeds go to the club so we hope that the pots will bring fair prices, but Steve's objective it to take home only those pots that he buys. They ALL must go.

There will also be a selection of stands and mats for showing trees and companion or

accent plants. There may also be some books available, but that will depend how much energy Steve has when packing for the trip to the meeting and which quince he brings in.

Longwood Show

All members should start thinking about trees (and stones) for display at the November show at Longwood Gardens. While final grooming is for the last minute, much can be done from here on.

Please feel free to bring in trees to the next meeting for pre- or post-meeting tree counseling. Fred Knobloch is scheduled, but Dennis, Ski, Steve and others will be happy to comment on what might be done in the remaining time. Any club members who wish to get help with display, or who lack some of the display equipment and want some help with stands, accents, etc, should bring these issues (and trees) to this or the next meeting. Those with extra display tables and supplies may be able to loan them out for the show or you may be able to make the perfect match in the silent auction.

Also, everyone can help with the show and we do need your help even if you do not feel comfortable with displaying something at this time. Sign-up sheets are provided with this newsletter and Greg Kanaskie will bring additional sign-up sheets to the September and October meetings. Thanks in advance for your help.



Two small pots by Pat Morris