



Preparation for Longwood Show – Continued Bonsai Sale

Brandywine Town Center

Saturday, September 15th, 2018, 10:00 am

Pre-meeting tree counseling will be available, as will coffee

Part I

The primary purpose of the September meeting is a dry run for the Longwood show. We would like those newer members willing to show trees to bring them together with their complete display to the Brandywine Town Center so that we can set things up to be able to preview what will be going on at Longwood. Those individuals who have shown at Longwood for many years or who have large trees do not need to bring their displays, but their experienced comments will be greatly appreciated.

This process will also be very informative for those members not showing trees. It is an opportunity to hone display skills and get helpful comments about the overall artistry of displays. There will also be extra stands and companion plants and slabs for loan to complement displays for individuals who might need to borrow them to complete their displays. (And this is a request to those of you who have extra stands, etc., to make them available during the meeting and at Longwood.)

Part II

We still have a lot of materials for sale so this could be an opportunity to buy pots, stands, and other bonsai-related materials. As a warning, we had a very successful end-of-year sale last November and people wanted to have it repeated. Unfortunately, with NC County restrictions on our use of the Brandywine Town Center, we cannot be assured of a November meeting at that venue, so this could be our last sale of the year.

Longwood Show Preparation

The BBS Bonsai Show at Longwood Gardens is scheduled for October 27-28. This annual fall show challenges our members to put on another demonstration of the remarkable styling skills of our club. The (annual but now defunct) spring show at the Brandywine River Museum is designed to show all skill levels and what it means as bonsai are developed. In contrast, we like for the Longwood show to focus on more polished, well-developed and well-displayed bonsai. We would like for all displays to be on stands and many displays to include additional artistic touches such as scrolls, shitakusa or kusamono, or suiseki.

There will be no Ameriseki display this year but it is certainly appropriate to have viewing stones incorporated into the bonsai displays. Smaller shitakusa companion plants are

important parts of bonsai display but well-organized, independent kusamono displays are also welcome.

Longwood Show

The sign-up forms are being distributed with this newsletter. We especially need sitters. Members not showing are encouraged to spend a part of the day helping with security. You will likely be asked more than a few questions where you can share your expertise with the patrons. It's a very rewarding experience. You also get the opportunity to see other members' works of botanical art and viewing stones. This is great free admission to Longwood and sitters are free to tour the grounds when off-duty.

No October Meeting

Brandywine Bonsai Society - BrandywineBonsai@GMail.com

President, Nancy Klabunde; Treasurer, Greg Kanaskie; Shows, Mary Allinson; Newsletter Editor, Steve Ittel (302) 778-4546

The late October Longwood show is somewhat demanding so we have decided that there will be no BBS meeting in October. The Longwood show will serve as the meeting. We welcome all members to join us at Longwood and take in the sights.

If we are unable to secure the Brandywine Town Center for the November meeting, there is a possibility that we will revert to an old tradition of gathering for pizza at a local establishment in November. We could hold our annual business meeting with pizza and beer or other refreshments.

Bonsai Supplies Available

We always have the possibility of Silent Auctions at our meetings. There will continue to

be a good selection of pots from Henri's collection. In addition, Steve Ittel will be bringing in a selection of Kusamono pots that he has made.

A Tremendous Oversight

The year 2017 was the 50th anniversary of Brandywine Bonsai Society. We/I completely blew the opportunity to do something special.

Let's make up for that by revamping our priorities for 2019. Greg Kanaskie has put together a list of thoughts about what we might do. I circulate it to all of you for your thoughts. We should start the discussion at the September meeting, but it will not be something decided in a single sitting. Maybe beer and pizza would help.