

Brandywine Bonsai Society

Promoting the art and horticulture of bonsai since 1967

Annual Picnic and Auction

Anson B. Nixon Park, Kennett Square, PA, Pavilion 1

Saturday, July 20th, 2024

Set-up at 10:00 am – Auction starts at 10:30 – Food at 11:30

Annual Auction/Lunch Meeting:

Our July meeting is our annual auction/lunch meeting. It is our most profitable fund raiser and one of our most fun and spirited. Members of the club are asked to donate items that will be put up for auction. In the past, items have included plant material, pots, tools, books, scrolls, etc. We will take a short break during the auction to have lunch, which will be supplied by the club. If you would like to contribute to our lunch, drinks and desserts are always welcome. You must be a current member to take part in the auction/lunch.

From 10:00 – 10:30, items will be organized and available for member inspection. The auction will start at 10:30 for approximately an hour. Bids will only be in dollar increments. We will break for lunch and then the auction will continue until no items are left. We can only accept cash and checks made out to Brandywine Bonsai Society or BBS as payment for your winnings.

We are meeting in Kennett Square at the Anson B. Nixon Park, [405 N Walnut Rd, Kennett Square, PA 19348](#). Park in the parking lot where the permanent bathroom structure is. We are in Pavilion #1, just past the bathrooms.

Directions to Anson B. Nixon Park

For those of you who get into Kennett Square by taking Route US1 southbound, 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.

August – Open workshop

Our August meeting is an open workshop for all members. Bring a tree or two to work on and enjoy the fellowship of your fellow bonsai artists. We will meet at Pavilion #1 at the Anson B. Nixon Park in Kennett Square.

July Bonsai Nursery Trip

Field trip time! On Saturday, July 27 we'll meet at David Owens' bonsai nursery in Nottingham, PA ([nottinghambonsaipa.com](#)). David grows trees in his private nursery and then sells them at regional events. The address is 230 Fremont Rd., Nottingham. Please use GPS for best directions. We'll start shopping at 10 a.m. and be finished at noon. David takes cash, credit card, or check. It's not a retail facility, so trees aren't marked with prices. Also, the terrain is uneven and hoses abound. Be careful and watch your step!

Longwood Show

Our annual Longwood Gardens show is October 2-7 in the Pierce DuPont House. Set up and take down are October 1 and 8 (both Tuesdays). We'll have 32 linear feet of space, two 16-foot lengths. Please bring your possible trees to the September meeting along with accent plants and stands. We'll include as many trees as we can elegantly fit on the tables. Visitors enjoy variety, so let's have deciduous and evergreen, tropical and temperate, singles and forests, and, of course, larger and smaller. You must bring your possibilities to the September meeting because we'll make final selections that day.

For our newest members, the Longwood event is our only public show in 2024. If you don't plan to show a tree, you can still participate by tree sitting (greeting visitors and answering questions). As show time gets closer, we'll be talking more about this, and I'll send an email explaining it. New members are welcome and encouraged to participate!

Crown Custom Bonsai/Rob King:

- Starting with the August meeting, Crown Custom Bonsai will be able to accept electronic forms of payment (e.g. credit cards, Apple pay, Google pay, PayPal and Venmo).
- Because of the auction, I will not be bringing any items from CCB to the meeting. However, if there is something in its inventory that you need, please send me (Rob) an email at crowncustombonsai@hotmail.com containing what you want and I will bring it to the meeting.

2024 Brandywine Bonsai Schedule

July 20: Club Auction and Lunch (ABN Park)

July 27: Dave Owen's Nursery

August 17: Open Workshop (ABN Park)

September 21: Longwood Show Prep (TBD)

October 2-7: Longwood Show (LG)

October 19: TBD

November 16: Business Meeting and Garage Sale (TBD)

BTC = Brandywine Town Center, Wilmington, DE

ABN Park = Anson B Nixon Park, Kennett, PA

Mark Huf's = Huf Landscaping, Oxford, PA

LG HH = Longwood Gardens Headhouse

TBD= to be determined

Other Bonsai Events of Interest

New Jersey Bonsai Societies, "Art of Bonsai"

Exhibition & Sale, July 20-21, 2024 at Brookdale

Community College, Warner Student Life Center, 765

Newman Springs Road, Lincroft, NJ

Opening for Club Treasurer

Greg Kanaskie has been doing a fantastic job for 16 years as club treasurer and is taking a well-deserved retirement. If you are interested, here is what it involves:

The current duties of the BBS treasurer have evolved over time. Obviously whenever money is exchanged the treasurer is involved. There is online banking with Wells Fargo. The money originates from dues, raffles, silent auctions, the picnic auction (the biggie), and any other transactions.

Currently the treasurer pays bills, including presenters' fees, conducts raffles and itemizes and collects the payment at the picnic auction. The treasurer is also in charge of membership and has developed Excel spreadsheets to keep track electronically and has a backup of the paper registration forms. Name tags are produced by the treasurer. The group email distribution list is also maintained by the treasurer. The treasurer also maintains a relationship with the National Bonsai Foundation.

Free Classified Ads: We are still carrying your classified ads in the newsletter for free. Are you planning on selling things that will not be included in the silent auction and that you want the club to be aware so they can bring some extra money, are offering some sort of bonsai-related services, or maybe you are heading to Nature's Way and are offering to pick things up for our members. You can send this info to Karin Simmat (ksimmat@verizon.net) for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Basics of Bonsai Wiring by Karen Harkaway

1. Clean trees
2. Where to begin wiring
 - a. Bottom to top
 - b. Inside-outside
3. Type of wire (copper/aluminum)
4. Gauge of wire
5. Length of wire
6. Anchoring (usually two branches)
7. Direction you want the branch to move
 - a. Clockwise – Left
 - b. Counterclockwise - Right
8. Where to stop/change gauge:
 - 1.5 turns after bifurcation

The above is from Karen's handout for those that were not there. Karen demonstrated these principles using branches and pipe cleaners. Then the group tried wiring on sample branches or bonsai they brought.

Share a Tree

Do you have a tree of which you are particularly proud? Maybe one that is flowering, fruiting or showing brilliant colors or maybe just one that you want to share. Bring it to a meeting regardless the topic of the meeting. We can always carve out five minutes for you to do a show-and-tell with it. It doesn't have to be display ready or a "masterpiece"; just something you would like to share.