

Brandywine Bonsai Society

Promoting the art and horticulture of bonsai since 1967

Longwood Gardens Show Prep Session Brandywine Town Center Saturday, September 16, 2023

September Meeting

The Longwood bonsai show will be held earlier in October this year. Because of this, it was decided to change the date of the preview meeting to this month. Our topic is the same; those members who are displaying tree(s) will bring their tree(s) to the meeting so that the members can preview and enjoy the trees.

Longwood Gardens Exhibit

Our annual Longwood show will be October 3-10. This is our only public show this year, and because of the ongoing construction, our limit is 15 trees. Our location is the same area as last year, near the green wall in the Conservatory.

We welcome coniferous, deciduous, and tropical bonsai, and we'll make the selections for the show during our meeting on September 16. If you have one or two trees that you'd like to include in the show, please bring it/them and any companion plants to the meeting. Scrolls and stands will not be used this year.

Even if you don't plan to include a tree, we still need help with staffing our information table, which is officially known as being a tree sitter. Tree sitters answer all sorts of questions ("How old is that tree?"; "Where's the bathroom?") and keep the trees from being touched. A shift is a minimum of two hours, and longer shifts are available. As a bonus, a tree sitter has free admission to Longwood for that day. If you're displaying a tree in the show, the club kindly asks that you take one tree sitting shift. A sign-up sheet will be available at the September meeting. After that, anyone interested may schedule a time by emailing me.

Approximately one week before the show, all participants will receive an email to verify information and explain the annual parking conundrum. The set up will be on October 3 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m. The pick up is October 10 at those same times. Longwood is closed those days, so sitters are needed only October 4-9.

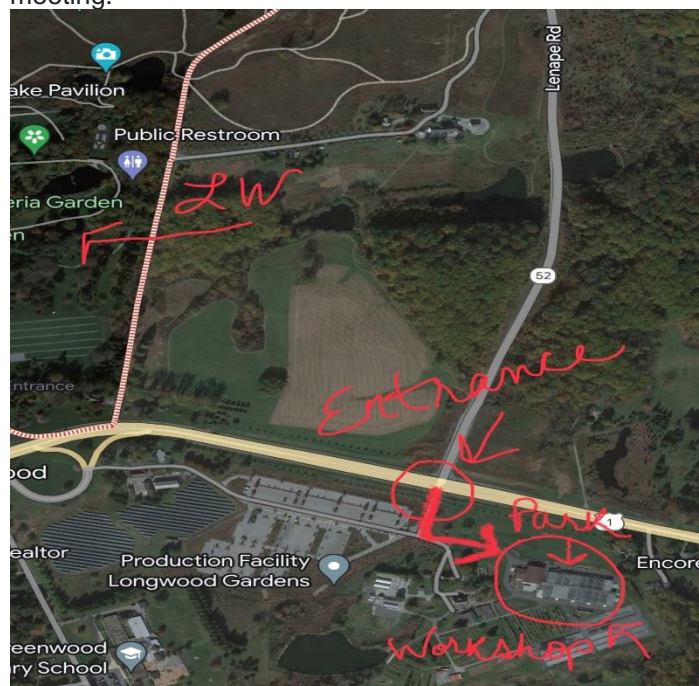
October Kusamono Class

Longwood Gardens has arranged an incredible opportunity for us! We've been invited to a kusamono workshop facilitated by kusamono artist Young Choe and our own Steve Ittel on Sunday, October 1 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

We'll meet at the Production Facility, located at the intersection of Routes 1 and 52. This is the new facility that is just east of Longwood, and south of Rt. 1. Parking is available on the north side of the building. Please see the attached photo for a map.

Plant material will be provided. Longwood will have some pots, and Steve will have a limited supply for sale. If you have any pots available, we ask that you bring your own supply because we can't guarantee that enough will be available. There is no cost for the workshop unless you purchase an Ittel pot.

Please email me at robertacarlson@frontier.com to reserve your spot. I'll also take names at our September meeting.



2023 Brandywine Bonsai Schedule

September 16: Longwood Show Preview (BTC)

October 1: Kusamono Class (LG)

October 3-10: Longwood Garden Bonsai Show (LG)

October 21: Group Design of a Bonsai I or II (BTC)

November 18: Business Meeting and Garage Sale (BTC)

ABN Park = Anson B Nixon Park, Kennett, PA LG =

Longwood Gardens TBA = to be announced

US National Bonsai Exhibition, September 9-10, 2023
Rochester, NY. www.internationalbonsai.com for detailed information and online registration

Nature's Way Bonsai 50 years Celebration

October 28. Guest artist is Larry Jackel, curator of the Denver Botanic Garden. 20% discount on sales. 10% for BBS members. 1451 Pleasant Hill Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111

American Bonsai Society Learning Seminars, 2024

Last month I had to return to the place I was raised, Grand Haven, Michigan. While there, I spent an afternoon at the Frederik J. Meijer Garden and Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The reason I am mentioning this in the newsletter is that this is the venue for the ABS Learning Seminars next year, May 9 – 12.

This venue has over 200 sculptures on display and 158 acres of gardens. What I found most interesting and where I spent my time was in the 8-acre Japanese Gardens, complete with a tea house, many meditation huts, contemporary sculpture by Asian masters from China, Japan and Vietnam and a large Zen Garden.

Inside the Japanese Garden was an outdoor bonsai display garden (see pictures below). The ABS show looks to be a great time. With an international airport just 12 miles and hotels just down the street, it looks to be a great time. Rob King



Austrian Pine



Rocky Mountain Juniper



Japanese White Pine

MABS Festival Dividend

This past spring the annual Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies Festival took place in NJ. The BBS members showed up like never before. Other than bringing in some of the best artists in the world, great vendors, and many chances to interact with other bonsai artists, the festival is set up in a way that we hope will result in a "profit".

The 11 MABS associated clubs receive dividends in two ways. One, performing certain assigned responsibilities that leads to a successful festival (we volunteer for two responsibilities – Steve (Webmaster) and Rob (Treasurer) and second, the participation of club members during the festival (number of members attending and their activities during the festival). We had 14 members attend.

Our dividend was \$1,521.26, which comes out to be \$108.66 per BBS attendee. As part of the BBS "give-away" program, Jesse Cook won a full registration to the festival (\$180.00). Even with our amended dividend, the "take home" was \$1,341.26; dividing that by 14 registrants, we added \$95.80 per attendee to our treasury. That addition to our treasury allows us to bring two more high quality artists to our club's schedule. Let's aim for more members attending next year – April 19 – 21 (this coincides with our regular meeting); Holiday Inn, Grantsville, PA (Hershey/Harrisburg).

New Venue for the BBS

We soon will be losing the BTC as a meeting venue while it is undergoing renovation. We are asking everybody to put on your thinking caps and try to come up with ideas for a new place to meet. We are not restricted to Delaware. In fact, before we met at the BTC, we met regularly in Kennett Square, Kennett, and Longwood Gardens. Also, if you look at Greg's map of where our members live, more live in PA than DE. One thing to remember is that we now have members that are quite active in the club and are coming from MD. Ideas to think about are schools, churches, fire stations, nature centers, etc. If you have an idea, please let one of the officers know.

Request from Roberta

Kevin Bielicki, the Longwood bonsai curator, would like to know the years that we've held an exhibit at Longwood. I've found the years we've exhibited at the Brandywine Museum, but I can't find the years for the Longwood show. If anyone has information, please email me at robertacarlson@frontier.com. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Superfly Discount

As a member of the BBS, you are entitled to a 10% discount at Superfly Bonsai. You must make your purchase in person at Superfly and inform them that you are a member of the Brandywine Bonsai Society when you are checking out.

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 of so they can bring some extra money, are offering some sort of bonsai-related services, or maybe you are heading to Superfly or 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.