

Brandywine Bonsai Society

Promoting the art and horticulture of bonsai since 1967

Marco Invernizzi Demonstration Saturday, May 16, 2026, starts 9:00 am Huf Landscaping

Cookie Person: ????

Membership

There are still some people who have not sent in their dues. The costs are unchanged. Twenty dollars for an individual, \$25 for a family. Get a dues form and send payment to Karin Simmat as soon as possible OR pay at the meeting. Please fill out all the information requested to keep the BBS records accurate. Send form to Karin Simmat, 263 Green Briar Court, Newtown Square, PA 19073-2126.

The May Meeting:

This month's meeting is especially exciting. We will be meeting at Mark Huf's place in Oxford, PA to get a chance to learn from one of the most-respected bonsai artists, Marco Invernizzi. Marco will be working on a Japanese black pine purchased at MABS. At the end of the meeting, it will be raffled off to some lucky club member. The meeting will start promptly at 9:00 and end at noon. After the meeting, you will have a chance to do some shopping in Mark's nursery.

If you would like a chance to spend more time observing Marco, after a short lunch break, he will work on some trees that were selected for him by the people who have organized the day's events. You are more than welcome to observe this; however, this part of the day is not associated with the club.

If anyone would like to bring a tree you would need to get in touch with Mark first so he can add you on a list. There might be a chance Marco could spend a few minutes helping with styling the tree or just giving great advice. The tree would need to be fairly mature and worthy for him to look at. Naturally time is limited so it would be a maybe.

Mark Huf
257 Bethel Rd.
Oxford, PA 19363

Directions to Mark's:

Take Route 1 to Oxford, PA. Exit onto 472N. Take the first left onto Bethel Road. Stay on Bethel. Go right at the stop sign and then straight through the four-way stop. Take fourth driveway on the right. There is a big sign.

Call for Volunteers (Roberta Carlson)

On June 24-29, Longwood Gardens will be hosting the first seven-society collaborative Bonsai Festival. During the event, members from all seven groups will be monitoring trees and speaking with guests. Colloquially, we at Brandywine Bonsai call this being a tree sitter. Longwood is at the center of Brandywine Bonsai Society's membership area, so we will be able to fill many of the shifts. Even so, members from all groups are encouraged to participate. There are no requirements to be a tree sitter other than to enjoy talking with people about bonsai and pointing out the direction of the restrooms. Skill level doesn't matter; newcomers and veterans are both welcome and needed. Tree sitters are entitled to free admission to Longwood. Only members of the bonsai societies are allowed to be sitters, not other family members or friends. Shifts are scheduled in two-hour increments, but you may schedule longer or shorter shifts if you'd like. You may also break a shift into parts, for example, by working two hours in the morning and another hour or two in the afternoon. Accessibility services are available, and we'll work with anyone who needs assistance. If you're displaying a tree in the show, we encourage you to take one two-hour shift if at all possible. All members will also have the opportunity to sign up as runners on June 26-28. These volunteers will assist with moving purchased items from the vending area or from Saturday evening's auction to the pickup location. Club members will receive a link to SignUpGenius in May and then use that link to sign up for their shifts. Information about parking and other details will be provided once we are closer to the event. Until then,

if you have any questions, please email me
(robertalscarlson@gmail.com).

You may sign up to be a tree sitter or a runner using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0548AEA82DA6FBC52-63965016-longwood>

Steve Ittel on Tree Give-Aways

As an initial disclaimer, I am notoriously bad at estimating time-frames of when events have occurred, so please don't hold the following estimates against me.

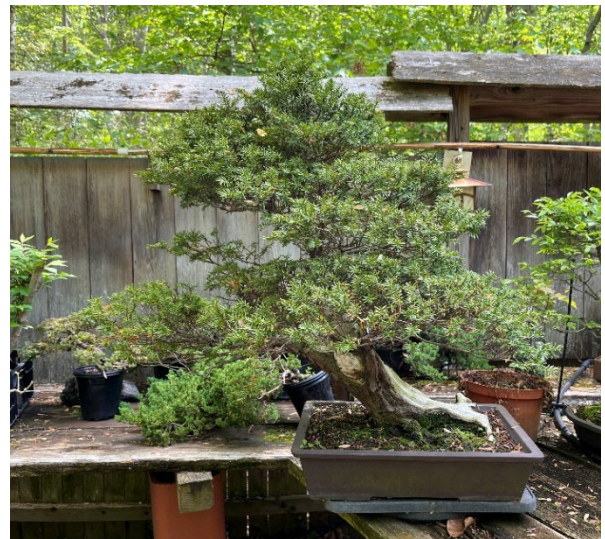
This April, I announced that a number of substantial yews had been dropped off at my house by a gardener friend and that they were available to members on a first-come-first-serve basis. I kept one for myself and eventually the other seven were distributed. I would like recipients to periodically update the club on their trees, including status and styling choices.

This was not the first such give-away at my house. About five years ago, another smaller batch of yews (fewer trees and smaller trees) were distributed from my house. I have lost track of most of those trees, but here are pictures of the two I retained. The second is heavily guy-wired, still pulling branches into place.

Tree Arrival



Last tree departure. Rob and I lifted and my wife, Kathy, held the wheelbarrow/pallet in place.



About ten years ago, the give-away was substantial azaleas that had been dropped at my house. They came from a big old house on the Philadelphia Main Line that was being bulldozed. My friend had a backhoe operator pull them out and drop them in the back of his pick-up truck. I can account for two of those that I kept initially. The biggest was on display in the hotel lobby at the recent MABS conference. I initially planted the tree in a large wooden box but after two years, I realized the tree was too big for me to handle so I gave it to Jim Doyle at Nature's Way. He has nurtured and styled it since. He managed to get it into a pot made by George Reed. Here is a picture of the three of us with the tree.

Finally, many years ago (15?) there was a club dig of trees in the woods at my house. These were trees my gardener friend or I had collected and put into the ground to promote long-term growth.

Multiple crab apples were from the NCC airport from when I had permission to dig there. We were also allowed to dig Japanese Black Pines from the Delaware seashore dunes because they were considered invasive. It was one of those airport crab apples (6" trunk and 3', high tapering through two major bends), that broke Rob King's nose when it got away from him. I remember little of the other trees and wondered if anyone still had one or more of them.



I have dug half a dozen trees from my yard this year and more remain in the ground. I think it is a bit late for more digging at this point, but I think a selective club dig next spring might be in order and then I will be done worrying about trees in the ground. And I really do not need more undeveloped, beginning trees.

The second and smaller of those azaleas finally got too big for me so I donated it to Longwood Gardens. Here is a picture of that tree but the blossoms were



dropping.

Cedar Apple Rust

Cedar apple rust is a continuous battle in my yard because I have five big, mature eastern red cedars (actually *Juniperus virginiana*) and countless volunteer crabapples. After the first warm rain this year, I found many galls that had blossomed into bright orange balls of slime on my cedars. On my juniper bonsai, there was also evidence on *Juniperus procumbens nana* and *torulosa*. Nothing on *Chinensis* or Japanese Shimpaku (*sargentii*).



Gymnosporangium juniperi-virginianae is a plant pathogen that causes cedar-apple rust. In virtually any location where apples or crabapples (*Malus*) and eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) coexist. Cedar apple rust can be a destructive or disfiguring disease on both the apples and cedars. Apples, crabapples, and eastern red cedar are the most common hosts for this disease. Similar diseases can be found on quince and hawthorn and many species of juniper can substitute for the eastern red cedars.

This means I will have to be particularly diligent about fungicides this summer. I don't know whether it is an issue localized to my particular area or whether there will be a significant issue for all of us. I don't treat my yard plants.

Here is information regarding the auction at Longwood Gardens:

The tree auction will be held live on Saturday night at 7pm during the Longwood Bonsai event. The detailed information sheet describing the auction and how the trees get selected, consigned and sold is in a pdf that will be sent with the BBS newsletter.

All members are eligible to submit trees for sale to the tree submission page on the New Jersey Bonsai Societies website at <https://njbonsaisocieties.com/longwood-tree-auction>. Multiple trees may be submitted by any member. Please note that pre-bonsai are not eligible to be submitted. This auction is for bonsai trees in bonsai pots in various stages of development.

Tentative 2026 BBS schedule

May 16: Marco Invernizzi Demonstration (Mark Huf's)

June 20: Deciduous Pruning (BTC)

July 18: Club Auction and Lunch (ABN Park)

August 15: Longwood Show Prep (ABN Park)

September 19: Martha Meehan (Mark Huf's)

October 17: TBD (BTC)

November 21: Business Meeting and Garage Sale (BTC)

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

Potomac Bonsai Festival May 8-10 US National Arboretum, Washington, DC

American Bonsai Society (ABS) 2026 Learning Seminar.

June 4-7, 2026. North Carolina Arboretum, 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, NC 28806

"Wild Things" Kusamono festival US National Arboretum, Washington DC
June 19 – 22, 2026

Multi-Club Bonsai Exhibit at Longwood Gardens,
June 24-29

Natures Way Bonsai Nursery Swap and Sale, August 22, 1451 Pleasant Hill Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17112

NJ Bonsai Societies Festival, October 17-18, 2026
Brookdale Community College, Warner Student Life
Center

Natures Way Bonsai Nursery Winter Open House,
December 4 through December 6

Winter Silhouette Show, Annapolis NC, December 5
& 6

Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies (MABS) has an opening for Secretary (who is desperately needed). If you are interested, contact Carl Achhammer Jr., 570-709-3848 or Joseph Matson at 870-955-8174.

BBS Nametags

Members are in charge of their name tags now. Remember to wear them at meetings and events. Paul Carlson has temporary ones if you forget yours. See Paul if you don't have one.

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. Title your email "BBS Classified Ad".

BBS Advice Corner

If you need some help, please come early to the meeting. There will be some experienced people eager to help you sitting off to one side in a corner!! This is no longer available only for newbees.