



Pittsburgh Bonsai Society

...to disseminate knowledge, encourage others
and create interest in the art of bonsai

May • June 2007 Newsletter

Ohio Road Trip! Saturday June 9, 2007

Go West for the Best! PBS invades the 27th Ohio Regional Bonsai Show,
Dawes Arboretum, Newark Ohio Register Immediately...

Snooze & You Lose!

Information & Registration inside..

NEXT MEETING

TROPICALS WORKSHOP

with Jose Cueto

Drew Mathieson Center

Saturday, July 21 10:00am-12:00 noon

Our old friend Jose is back with all the information you need to
make your tropical bonsai flourish! A modest materials fee
applies.

Mike's Corner

Tips and Suggestions from Mike Stern

Bonsai In The Ground (Part III)

Now that you have established a tree garden and the roots have unlimited space in which to grow, your trees will do exactly that. They will grow much faster than potted trees. Most of the requirements of garden grown tree are similar to that of those growing in a pot. They will require much less watering. However, if it rains infrequently, like this spring, water them. This is especially true in the spring if you have root pruned them or they have very small root systems.

Garden grown trees may also be a little more vulnerable to diseases and pests since you are not carefully looking at them and watering them each day. If you have trees that are vulnerable to insects such as crab apples are vulnerable to aphids, check for them and take care of them as necessary. With my Chinese elms, I have found that I have to spray a fungicide early in the spring as they tend to drop their leaves. One year I lost a number of 15 year old zelkovas to borers. (You have to get down very low to see the pinholes that they leave in the trunk and fine sawdust around the trunk.)

Mulch around the tree, but keep the mulch away from the trunk and nebari. This avoids rotting the trunk. I put dry fertilizer on the ground right before I mulch. Mulch has a tendency to steal nitrogen from the soil. However, I believe it is worth it as it keeps the soil moist, decreases temperature fluctuation, reduces watering and eliminates weed growth.

If you mulch, be careful not to allow the decayed mulch to build up around the trunk and roots. Many trees will form new roots on top of the old ones if new soil is placed around the base of the trunk. My garden is slightly sloped. When it rains, sometimes it washes soil around the base of the trunk. As a result, I have had young roots growing off of the trunk above the nice nebari.

If you have not already placed fertilizer around the root zone consider doing that. If you want to use liquid fertilizer throughout the growing season that would also encourage faster growth.

Next installment: "Shaping an In ground Tree"

Welcome!

We're happy welcome back renewing PBS members Bob Dietz, Bob Gerwing, Carole Harland, Michael Stern and Maryanne Fello. We also welcome brand new members Radka Kerpedjieva, Liz Hickman, James Toney, Christopher Byrne, Dan Dziejewicz, Jason & Sarah Gartland, Robert & Alice Kushner, Matthew Ripple, Darlene Ursiny, Jonathan Kelly, Karla Wasserloos and Robert & Jessica Faust.

Robert Faust, by the way, crafts wooden bonsai display stands and custom bonsai trays, while Jessica creates jewelry (some using bonsai designs) in gold and silver. Their web page is www.calicocreationz.com; their phone is 724 864-6827; email: calicocreationz@aol.com.

Jay Miller



Don't Miss This Trip!

Join your fellow PBS bonsai enthusiasts for a daytrip to the Dawes Arboretum, near Newark, Ohio on Saturday June 9th 2007. You'll board a luxury Anderson Motorcoach at either King's restaurant in Cranberry Twp at 8:30am or downtown at the Pittsburgh Hilton at 9:00am. We'll arrive at the Dawes Arboretum and have a box lunch at the pavilion at 12:15. A tour of their famous Japanese Garden

will follow at 1:30 and then we'll visit the main bonsai show, featuring 100 trees from private collections in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan and Canada. There'll be vendors with all sorts of bonsai material. We'll re board for departure about 4:15pm and arrive at the Pittsburgh Hilton about 7:15pm and King's about 8:00pm.



Send your registration form and a check (\$38 for paid-up members, \$58 non-members) as soon as possible. It is first come, First on the bus!

...And Here Are A Few
Photos From Our

Azalea Workshop Last Month





Pittsburgh Bonsai Society
c/o Cindie Bonomi (Editor)
335 Newburn Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Calendar of Events

Sat. Jun. 09..... ROAD TRIP Dawes Arboretum

See inside for details....

Sat. Jul. 21.....Jose Cueto Tropicals Workshop

Drew Mathieson Center 10am-12 noon

Sat. Aug. 11.....Annual Picnic & Flea Market

The Grealish Farm

Wed. Sept. 19.....Phoenix Graft Demonstration 7:00pm

All PBS meetings, unless otherwise noted, will be held at the Phipps Garden Center, starting at 7:00pm. Emergency Phone: 412 441-4442.

Phipps Garden Center is located at the edge of Mellon Park in the Shadyside section of Pittsburgh. At the Phipps Garden Center sign on Shady Avenue, just south of the intersection of Fifth and Shady Avenues, turn into the cobblestone driveway. Park in the metered lot. Walk 50 yards farther down the cobblestone lane. The Garden Center is the red brick building on your left.

