



Descanso Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

July 2006

President's Message by Bill Wawrychuk



Thank you all for your entries and help with the show, it was profitable and successful. As a club, we cannot do an event like this without everyone's help, from set up to take down. The Board and I THANK YOU ALL! Congratulations to everyone who received an award this year, your hard work paid off! For the rest of us,

there is always next year! So now is the time to get started for next year's show.

As club president, I get to hear the good, the bad, and every other complaint in between. The majority of the comments I heard this year were on the novice room: "very impressive" seemed to be the comment from not only our senior members, but people from other clubs as well. The novice entries were outstanding. With that said, the nay, nay, nay, nay award goes to Ellen Kenosha! Ellen racked up so many points this year in the novice room that she has now advanced into the "big people room" for next year. Your Board tried to make the room truly novice and so far it looks like we accomplished it.

IF ANYONE LOST/ FORGOT A PURPLISH COLORED ACCENT STAND AT THE SHOW, PLEASE SEE ME, I HAVE IT.

At the June meeting, our demonstrator Ted Matson wore a great set of gloves while working on his tree. Everyone wanted to know who made them and where he got them. Ted sent me the email and told me the gloves are Atlas Garden Gloves. They can be purchased at www.palmflex.com. But, if you do a Google search, you will be able to find various vendors.

Next month we have our biggest fund raiser and social event, the club's potluck/auction. I signed up for a niche this month to show you what may be available to you at the auction. I obtained the piece I am showing at our 2004 auction. Admission to the auction is one donated bonsai related item or at least something you would bid on and a casserole/salad/desert (enough for 4 people). As always, the club appreciates your not using the auction as a garage cleaning exercise!

Thanks to everyone who signed up for our email newsletter. You can still sign up by contacting Paul Chang.

I am sorry to end this on a sad note, but our condolences go out to Mort Lowey and his family. Mort's wife Sunny recently passed away.



WELCOME

New Members

Ken Groce
Brenton Wyeth
Ligaya Mangahas
Kevin Koch
C. F. Chin

July Refreshments:

Maria Atkison
Ed Watts
Emma Janza
Antoinette Koltaj

July Niche:

Bill Wawrychuk
Dale Hines

Next Club Meeting:

July 18, 2006

7:00 pm

Next Meeting: August 15, 2006 **(Potluck Dinner and Auction)**

Club meetings are held on
the third Tuesday of each month
at Van de Kamp Hall, Descanso Gardens
1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada Flintridge

June Meeting with Ted Matson

A Study in Austerity
By Michael Jonas

In June, at the first regular meeting after our annual show, Ted Matson presented a demonstration of how to create a bonsai from unusual Foemina juniper stock. The material was unusual in that it was about an inch thick at the base and soared to about four feet in height. Though having the much-prized feature of a Chokan (formal upright) styled tree, an arrow-straight trunk, this tree seemed to have an impossibly tall, thin aspect.

While Ted worked, he explained that as bonsai artists we should look at the material at hand and try to visualize something in nature that it reflects. In this case Ted mentioned trees that grow high in the mountains with sparse branching, reflecting harsh environmental conditions. In terminating the top of the tree, Ted created a lightning-struck jin (branch of or top of tree that is bare of all foliage) that added to the old, weathered look of the tree. He then angled all of the branches into a downward angle that also contributed to the illusion of great age of a tree that has struggled to survive for many years.

After styling the elegantly sparse, slender tree, Ted suggested that it eventually be placed as a single tree in a narrow long rectangular pot or on a granite slab to emphasize its height and solitary growth in a hostile environment.

The lucky and appreciative recipient of the tree was yours truly, Michael Jonas.

A BIG THANK YOU

Denny and I want to thank those members who gave their time and energy setting up and tearing down the club's 36th year Bonsai Exhibit.

The work went smoothly and quickly thanks to people like Eric Rogger, Kathy Benson, Henry Leal and Michael Jonas, our lighting expert. Setup went so smoothly because of my volunteers, so many in fact, I can't name them all.

Thanks to Marge Blasingame, sales went very well in spite of a slow start Friday (total sales of over \$3,000). I don't think any of the people who attended the Saturday night reception went away hungry, thanks to the efforts of Maggie Carpenter and Elizabeth Likes. By the way, they actually came in under budget.

The novice exhibit was curated by Kathy Benson, who was very pleased with the quality of the bonsai entered. Marcus Juniel arranged for the demonstrations and the demonstrators did their usual great jobs.

The Saturday night raffle was hand led by Michael Jonas. Items were plentiful and quality was outstanding. Everyone seemed pleased, especially the winners.

Mary Morrissey and Henry Leal assisted Kaz Yoneda, our judge, do his job and recorded all of his helpful comments.

Last but not least, how about our intrepid leader, Bill Wawrychuk. He not only got the publicity out in a timely manner, but saw to it that fliers were available at the information desk. He also coordinated the tree watchers who did a great job also.

I'm sure we forgot someone to thank but what can you expect from a couple of over the hill tree benders?

Jim Barrett and Denny Roche

DESCANSO BONSAI SHOW 2006 AWARD WINNERS

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| John Naka Award | Paul De Rose - California Juniper | Best of Novice | Emma Janza - Bougainvillea |
| Best of Advanced | Eric Rogger - Japanese Black Pine | Dick Wydman Award | Fran Neumann - Gardenia |
| 2nd Place Advanced | Ray Blasingame - Zelkova | Most Artistic Display | Ellen Keneshea - Shimpaku |
| 3rd Place Advanced | Ray Blasingame - Prostrada Kengai | Most Points | Ellen Keneshea - 11 |
| Most Artistic Display | Ray Blasingame - Prostrada Kengai | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Shohin | | Evergreen under 24" | |
| First | Meriel Stern - Blue Atlas Cedar | First | Ellen Keneshea - Shimpaku |
| Deciduous under 24" | | Second | Fran Neumann - Gardenia |
| First | Ellen Keneshea - Elm | Third | Kyra Compinsky - Prostrada |
| Second | Elizabeth Short - Copper Beech | Evergreen over 24" | |
| Third | Adina Wilson - Fig | First | Emma Janza - Bougainvillea |
| Deciduous Over 24" | | Second | Meriel Stern - Olive |
| Second | Marie Kwakkenstein - Ginkgo Forest | Third | Jim Pelling - Juniper |

July Tips

by Jim Barrett



Many bonsai-related chores may be done this month. Finish candle pruning your black pine if you still have trees needing attention.

Wire azaleas that need some adjustment and redirecting. Don't forget to remove all seedpods from your Satsuki azaleas. It goes without saying that we must pay attention to our watering procedures. I usually water in the morning and again, if needed, about 4:00 in the afternoon. Not all trees will be dry by late afternoon, but if the drainage is good, it won't hurt to water again.

Shohin and mini bonsai can be settled in wet sand or decomposed granite to keep them from drying out too fast. A tray with good drainage filled to the rim will work nicely.

Watch for powdery mildew on maples, quince, crab apples, and crepe myrtle. Benomyl is a good fungicide to use for this problem. Spider mites can turn some junipers and black pines gray overnight, so watch for these critters.

Hold off on leaf pruning maples until the end of August. Doing it now just produces new leaves that burn up by September. It's best to wait if you can.

Repotting (pot to pot) is risky at this time of year but it can be done if necessary. Do not disturb the root system too much if you must repot now.

Olive, pomegranate, and some junipers can be potted (growing container to pot) now, if you over pot and are careful with the root system. Mornings and overcast days are best for this operation.

Light fertilizing during summer is OK. Spend a few moments each day with your trees and enjoy them.

Join the Descanso Bonsai Society

\$22 - Single \$27 - Couples

Payable to: Descanso Bonsai Society
See Membership Chair Javier at the next meeting or

Send to: Javier Alvarez
1907 Montrose St.
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Thank You

Thanks to all those that donated items for the DBS Show Reception raffle, especially:

JIM BARRETT
DESCANSO CLUB
KIMURA NURSERY
BRUCE AND YAEKO HISAYASU
MARGE BLASINGAME
KATHY BENSON
KEITH DAGER
DENNY ROCHE
MICHAEL JONAS
MARY MORRISSEY
MILT HUCKABY

And for the June meeting:

Maggie Carpenter
Jerry Banuelos
Denny Roche
Fran Neumann
Bruce and Yaeko Hisayasu
Milton Huckaby
Maria Atkison
Emma Janza

Officers

President - Bill Wawrychuk (818) 790-9415

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DBS Newsletter
c/o Paul Chang
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Bonsai Calendar

Kofu Bonsai Kai

July 7-30, 2006
Noon to 10:00 pm
Orange County Fairgrounds
Fairview and Arlington, Costa Mesa

San Diego Bonsai Club

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 2006
10:00 - 5:00
Balboa Park, San Diego

Golden State Bonsai Federation

Convention XXIX "Bonsai by the River"
Nov. 2-5, 2006
Double Tree Hotel, Sacramento
See www.gsbf-bonsai.org for more info.



DBS Board Meeting

Open to all club members interested in getting involved in club operations & management.

Meeting on July 24, 2006 @ 7:00pm

At Elizabeth Likes' Home
9916 Rancho Caballo, Sunland 91040

Sunshine Column

Please keep the following people
in your thoughts



Nelson and Luisa Davis
Dr. Harold Rosenfeld
Norm Fischer
Marty Mann
Ben Perez (Cesareo's son)

DBS wishes to express our deepest sympathies to the Lowy family for passing of Mort's wife Sunny.