

The Bergen Bonsai Society

Aug 2009 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Sunday, Aug 16th

Time: 9:45AM

Place: Closter Nature Center

154 Ruchman Rd. Closter, NJ 07624



MAIN PROGRAM STYLING WORKSHOP GEORGE LEBOLT

The Bergen Bonsai Society

Incorporated

P.O. Box 822

Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

Website: BergenBonsai.com



Year 2009 Programs

Mark Your Calendar

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT AND/OR GUEST ARTIST</u>	<u>AM MTG</u>	<u>AFT MTG</u>	<u>EVE MTG</u>	<u>AWAY MTG</u>
	January 18	<u>GUEST SPEAKER</u> – Richard Buckley – Rutgers Univ. Plant Pathologist	<u>X</u>			
	February 22	<u>GUEST SPEAKER</u> – Sean Smith – Bonsai Stands & Displays	<u>X</u>			
	March 29	<u>TEMPERATE (MATERIAL SUPPLIED) WORKSHOP</u> – G. LeBolt	<u>X</u>			
	April 17, 18, 19	<u>MIDATLANTIC CONVENTION</u> @ Hudson Valley Resort, NY				<u>X</u>
	April 26	<u>MIDATLANTIC GUEST ARTIST</u> David Easterbrook	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	May 24	<u>TROP. TREES</u> AM Lect/Demo, Raintree W/S, + Aftn W/S – G. LeBolt	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	June 28	<u>ANNUAL PICNIC & AUCTION</u> @ Lakeside (12 noon – 3pm)		<u>X</u>		
	July 19	<u>GUEST ARTIST</u> – Chase Rosade – AM L/D & Afternoon BYOB W/S	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	August 16	<u>STYLING OPEN WORKSHOP (BYOB)</u> – G. LeBolt	<u>X</u>			
	September 13	<u>GUEST ARTIST</u> – Roy Nagatoshi – AM L/D & Afternoon BYOB W/S	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	October 18	<u>ANNUAL SHOW & CRITIQUE</u> – G. LeBolt	<u>X</u>			
	November 15	<u>WINTERING REVIEW & BONSAI VIDEO</u>	<u>X</u>			
	December 6	<u>ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY</u> @ Peking Duck Restr. (12 noon– 3pm)				<u>X</u>

* Indicates a change in date or event, since previous Newsletter

NOTES

1. All meetings @ Closter Nature Center are on Sundays
2. All morning meetings @ Closter Nature Center start 9:45 AM to APROX. 1:30 PM
3. All afternoon meetings @ Closter Nature Center start APX. 2 PM to APROX. 5 PM

LAST MONTH — JULY 19 GUEST ARTIST — CHASE ROSADE

In the past, it was customary to have a short business meeting prior to the Main Program. We now find it is better to start the Main Program promptly, and to have the business meeting following.

Our Tokonoma tree was a Mugo Pine displayed by George. It was at least 20 years in training & was in obvious need of a haircut. George has been so busy this year that he just couldn't get it trimmed in time (we have since learned that it was trimmed back 3 days later, — maybe we can get an updated picture for the next newsletter).



George then introduced Chase Rosade & explained that Chase would style **TWO** trees, — a Dwarf Alberta Spruce (supplied by George) & a Chinese Juniper (supplied by Chase).

The Spruce had a heavy trunk base & looked like a lovely Christmas tree with fine taper and branches from top to bottom in whirls, all tending to angle upward. It appeared to be a very nice, young tree. How was it going to end up looking like an aged bonsai??

Chase said that he had to find a way to make all of the branches bend downward, just like any aged living tree. He introduced me to a technique that I had never seen before. Chase notched the top of the branch about 1/3 down at the point where it attached to the trunk. While carefully bending it downward, he inserted a pebble into the notch to hold the cut open & angle the branch down. He then covered the entire area with cut wound paste. Wow!! The branch bent down right from the trunk and looked great. Over time, the cut would heal itself right over the pebble.

Next, he carefully chose about 3/4 of the branches to remove, so that only one branch came from each level on the trunk where a whirl existed before. He also removed a considerable portion of the top of the tree and repositioned a new apex to shorten the tree and also to eliminate a double top that existed initially.

The wiring and final trimming led to another interesting technique. Chase noted that the tree easily buds back but that new growth again tends to grow upward. To help this situation, he removed all the twigs that were growing up on each branch, emphasizing the illusion that the branches slanted downward with age. The end result was a lovely old tree with wonderful taper and shape — check out the pictures.

Mitch Becker



Before



Work in progress



Finished

The second tree was a Chinese Juniper which didn't appear to have much character. Chase removed a considerable upper portion of the tree & then took a long low branch (with green growth mainly on it's end), wired it & severely bent & angled it into a compact arrangement, which greatly enhanced the final designed tree. Once again, look at the magic of the pictures.



Before



Work in progress



Finished

Following the 2 tree Lect/Demos, we had our short business meeting & introduced several new Members. Wouldn't you know it, one of them had the winning raffle ticket for the spruce. Wow!, do we know how to treat new Members.

In the afternoon, we took a short lunch break, reset the room & commenced with the BYOB workshop. We had 8 participants and a varied array of trees. Trunk sizes were anywhere from 1" to 8". Under Chase Rosades design guidance, branches being removed flew in all directions, & after wiring & branch placement, many fine results were obtain. None of the trees originally brought in was recognizable, — all left with **better** trees.

Thank you Chase for an educational & enjoyable program.



THIS MONTH --AUG 16 BYOB STYLING OPEN WORKSHOP - GEORGE LEBOLT

We usually have a big turnout for this Event & all of our Members profit from the styling advice offered by George for each of the trees.

Bear in mind that you don't have to be in the workshop to attend the meeting, — the tree analysis is for **ALL** of our Members to observe, and of course there is no fee involved.

The format for this meeting will be similar to last year, — namely,

1. Morning Styling Analysis, open to all (with advance Registration). There is a nominal \$10 charge (payable to BBS) for design review and analysis by George, (this includes the afternoon workshop). No charge for observers.
2. Minimal Business Meeting.
3. Afternoon Hands-on Workshop (included in \$10 fee) with assistance from advanced Members of BBS who will help all participants achieve the styling suggestions originally given by George in the morning session. We would like to see **many more Members** doing the hands-on work with their trees, and we would also like to involve several more advanced Members in teaching and assisting others.

Let's get EVERY Member involved!, call George (201-768-7455) ASAP.

NEXT MONTH — SEPT 13 — GUEST ARTIST — ROY NAGATOSHI

Once more we are privileged to have Roy at BBS. George has arranged a mini-tour for him (3 clubs) so his travel expenses will be shared.

Roy will do a Lect/Demo in the morning using a boxwood supplied by George.

In the afternoon he will conduct a BYOB workshop. The workshop is already fully subscribed, but "Silent" observers are welcome.

We always enjoy Roys talent & good humor, & we are looking forward to his visit with us.

WORKSHOP STATUS

The Sept. workshop for Roy Nagtoshi is fully subscribed & has a waiting list.

You may still join the Aug 16 BYOB open workshop, but you must call George ASAP to register.

STUDY GROUP & WORKSHOP STATUS

There are only 2 more Study Group sessions scheduled, - Sun, Aug 9th & Sun, Aug 30th. Some opening are still available, — last chance!!

BONSAI MATERIAL

We again remind all of our Members that George LeBolt has some **exceptional** trees (mostly temperate But some tropicals) available for sale at **extremely** low prices. Give him a call at 201-768-7455 to arrange to come over & browse (you'll also get a look at his extensive collections of fine Bonsai).

ANNUAL SHOW & CRITIQUE

It is not too early to think about what tree you are going to display at our Fall Show. Continue pruning and grooming it **NOW**, so it will be ready in November. It does not have to be a “masterpiece” but we want **every** Member to show a tree that they have created themselves. Additionally, let us know if you want your tree to be considered for the 2010 MidAtlantic Exhibit.

BBS WEBSITE

Go to **www.bergenbonsai.com** & you can view our Newsletters, pictures from our last Meetings, the MidAtlantic Convention, & much more. Thank you again, Bob Pruski.

LIBRARY

As usual, our **complete** Library inventory is posted on our website (BergenBonsai.com). See what you want, contact our Librarians (Diane, John & Virginia), and they will bring it to the next Meeting. This is a tremendous facility and one of the best ways to learn more about Bonsai.

***** SPECIAL SALE*****

Several of our Members are downsizing from a house to an apartment and they will be donating some of their trees to BBS. At our Sept 13th meeting we, in turn will offer these trees our Members @ Bargain Basement prices.

OFFICERS & STAFF

<u>OFFICERS</u>	
President	George LeBolt
Vice President	Virginia Shen
Treasurer	Mitch Becker
<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u>	
Mitch Becker	Teresa & Victor Plummer
Marlene Cuniberti	Bob Pruski
Rose Chan	Ralf Schumann
George LeBolt	Virginia Shen

<u>COMMITTEES</u>	
Library (Videos)	Virginia Shen
Library (Hard Cover Books)	John Ricco
Library (Bonsai Today/Focus)	Diann Pinkowski
Library (Int'l Bonsai, BCL misc.)	Diann Pinkowski
Hospitality	Judy LeBolt Teresa Plummer
Refreshments	Elsbeth Christern Ralf Schumann
Tokonoma	Jane Boutis
Good & Welfare	Virginia Shen
Executive Board Meetings	Jim Killian
Demo. Tree Follow – up	Marlene Cuniberti
MidAtlantic Representatives	George LeBolt Len Schwartz
Programs	George LeBolt
Newsletter Production	Rose Chan
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