

# The Bergen Bonsai Society

## Sept 2009 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Sunday, Sept 13th

Time: 9:00AM NOTE CHANGE

Place: Closter Nature Center

154 Ruchman Rd. Closter, NJ 07624



### MAIN PROGRAM GUEST ARTIST ROY NAGATOSHI

**The Bergen Bonsai Society**  
Incorporated  
P.O. Box 822  
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666  
Website: [BergenBonsai.com](http://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 &amp; AUCTION</u> @ Lakeside (12 noon – 3pm)		<u>X</u>		
	July 19	<u>GUEST ARTIST</u> – Chase Rosade – AM L/D & Afternoon <b>BYOB</b> 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 <b>BYOB</b> W/S	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	October 18	<u>ANNUAL SHOW &amp; CRITIQUE</u> – G. LeBolt	<u>X</u>			
	November 15	<u>WINTERING REVIEW &amp; 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 ,event or time, 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 — AUG 16 — GEORGE LEBOLT**

It is strange to me that when we have a guest Bonsai Artist, we have a large attendance and yet when we have a meeting with our own people conducting Lect/Demos and workshops, the attendance tends to fall off a bit. Twenty three people attended the morning design analysis session (it's usually 30+ ) but only 9 participated in the afternoon "hands-on" workshop. The thing that strikes me is that more often than not, I find that workshops performed by our own George are much more educational, creative, and entertaining than some of the guest Artists that we bring in at considerable expense to the club. Other Clubs pay fees to have George conduct Lect/Demos and workshops, but yet when they take place at our own Club (with no cost to the club) we take the opportunity for granted. I, for one do not, and I want to take this opportunity to thank George for all that he does for our Organization. I don't know if it could exist without him and even if it did, it would certainly not have the good fortune of having such an artistic and well known leader and Bonsai Artist.

The styling workshop this month seemed to focus on two major points that we seem to miss in our tending to our trees. The first is one that we hear often from George — "keep pruning to create a compact tree. Do not let branches grow wild unless you have a very specific reason." Yet many of the trees that were brought in for styling were just that, with long and straggly branches. When will we ever learn???

The second item that we hear often deals with our wiring techniques. "For maximum bending strength, keep the turns at 45 degrees". I guess we get lazy or out of focus when wiring and lose the vision of the correct angle for the wire. I myself was guilty of that on the tree that I was working on at the workshop. Hopefully, I will concentrate on my wiring techniques with a little more enthusiasm and concentration to get it right in the future.

George had many suggestions for each tree that Members presented to him for design review. I am always fascinated by the things that he sees that I do not when a "bush" is the starting point of a workshop. The same holds true when he is presented with trees that we have worked on for years. With his fresh approach, he can suggest sometimes drastic restyling changes, which we then see will significantly improve our Bonsai. New styles. New fronts. New tops. New movements. New balances. What a talent!!! Thanks again George.



**George helping some BBS Members styling their trees**

**Mitch Becker**



**TOKONOMA TREE  
BOULEVARD CYPRESS  
(BOB PRUSKI)**

## **THIS MONTH — SEPT 13 — GUEST ARTIST — ROY NAGATOSHI**

As most of you know, Roy Nagatoshi is a 2nd generation Bonsai Nurseryman & owner of the Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar California. In 1975 he earned his B.S. degree in Ornamental Horticulture at Cal Poly University & shortly thereafter began conducting Lecture Demonstrations & workshops all over The U.S., & then internationally. And of course, we all know that he created the Bonsai that were used in the Karate Kid movie in 1990.

His fame precedes him & we are again looking forward to his visit with us at Bergen Bonsai .

### **\*\* SPECIAL SALE \*\***

As mentioned in last months Newsletter, several of our Members are downsizing from a house to an apartment & are donating some of their Bonsai to our Club.

All of these trees (some of which were trained for many years) will be offered for sale to our Members, starting @ **9:00AM** on a first come first served basis. They will all have price tags (at exceptionally **low** prices).

Great chance to pick up a **bargain!**

Further, if any other Members would like to contribute some Bonsai to BBS for this sale (they won't have to take care of them over the winter), please bring them to the Meeting **by 9:00AM**.

### **\*\*SPECIAL EVENTS\*\***

At our Sept. meeting we will propose & review several new & exciting possibilities for next year's programs.

We want to explore which ones our Members want, & then we will work up our 2010 programs.

This is Very important Meeting, — be sure to attend.!

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## **NEXT MONTH - OCT 18TH - ANUUAL SHOW & CRITIQUE - GEORGE LEBOLT**

Are you fine tuning your favorite tree for our show ?!?

Continue your trimming & wiring, put on some fresh moss & lichens, clean up the soil surface, clean up the pot & by all means, bring a suitable bonsai display stand.

We have stressed that we want **EACH & EVERY MEMBER** to show one of their best trees, — we don't expect "masterpieces" but we want every member to proudly participate.

Additionally, let us know if you want your tree to be considered for the 2010 MidAtlantic Exhibit.

For those who wish, each tree will be (mildly) critiqued for possible improvement. The critique is highly educational & enjoyable, and we can all profit from it.

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## **GOOD AND WELFARE**

**David Feitelson** (201-796-2263) is now recovering at home, but it will be quite a while before he will be able to attend our Meetings.

**Horst Krekeler** is in poor health & had to give up his Bonsai work. He surely would enjoy hearing from any of us, — his address is : IM VOGELSKORB 26, — 68535 EDINGEN. NECKARHAUSEN, GERMANY.

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## WORKSHOP STATUS

The Sept. workshop for Roy Nagtoshi is fully subscribed & has a waiting list. You may still register to be a “silent” observer. .

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## 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 collection of fine Bonsai).

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## BBS WBSITE

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

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## LIBRARY

As usual, the **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 in general, & especially, wiring techniques.

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## OFFICERS & STAFF

<u>OFFEICES</u>	
President	George LeBolt
Vice President	Virginia Shen
Treasurer	Mitch Becker
<u>EXECUTIVE COM-MITEE</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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