

The Bergen Bonsai Society

Aug 2010 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Sunday, Aug. 15th

Time: 9:45 AM—1:30 PM

Place: Closter Nature Center

154 Ruchman Rd. Closter, NJ 07624



OPEN WORKSHOP BYOB

The Bergen Bonsai Society
Incorporated
P.O. Box 822
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666
Website: BergenBonsai.com



Year 2010 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 24	<u>PRESENTATION BY A SURPRISE ARTIST</u>	<u>X</u>			
	February 21	<u>POT SALE AND TOOL SHARPENING</u>	<u>X</u>			
	March 21	<u>TEMPERATE WORKSHOP — (MATERIAL SUPPLIED)</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	April 16, 17, 18	<u>MIDATLANTIC CONVENTION</u> @ Hudson Valley Resort, NY				<u>X</u>
	April 25	<u>GUEST ARTIST — Charles Ceronio</u> — AM L/D & Aft BYOB W/S	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	May 16	<u>BERGEN SHOW</u> — Environmental Center Wyckoff, NJ (1pm-5pm)				<u>X</u>
	June 27	<u>ANNUAL PICNIC & AUCTION</u> @ Lakeside (12 noon – 3pm)		<u>X</u>		
	July 18	<u>OPEN WORKSHOP — BYOB / MATERIAL SUPPLIED</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	August 15	<u>OPEN WORKSHOP — BYOB / MATERIAL SUPPLIED</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	September 19	<u>GUEST ARTIST — Marty Schmalenberg</u> AM L/D & Aft BYOB W/S	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	October 17	<u>GUEST ARTIST — David Easterbook (MATERIAL SUPPLIED)—</u> AM L/D & Aft W/S	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	November 21	<u>WINTERING REVIEW & ANNUAL SHOW & CRITIQUE</u>	<u>X</u>			
	December 12	<u>ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY</u> (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

MEETING BEFORE LAST MONTH — JUNE 27th. —130th ANNUAL PICNIC & AUCTION

And another year has passed and it was picnic time again. Victor brought soda and cups. I brought cookies, napkins, cups, plates, and utensils. Jason Fox arranged the food menu and arranged delivery by his son, since he would be away watching tennis at Wimbledon. Bob, Peter, Ralph et al came early and setup the tables, etc. and promptly at noon, all was ready except the food.

We arranged to have it delivered at 12:30 so Bob started with a few business announcements and then the auction began. Many people contributed bonsai related material that was worth 5x more that we knew it would sell for but the picnic is to deliver items at bargain prices and still allow the club to make some money. It is our major fund raiser of the year.

The food arrived on time and the coffee and reception committees quickly set it all up. For me, it was the best picnic food that we have had in a long time. The sandwiches were thick with roast beef and turkey, the vegetable lasagna was excellent, the cookies were delicious (especially the chocolate ones), a fresh and varied salad, and every kind of sauce you could want.

The crowd was slightly less than usual but we did have some enthusiastic bidders. The very best was Michael Humphrey. If the name sounds unfamiliar, that is because Mike has recently emigrated from England and has settled down in Wallkill, NY, about an hour away from the Nature Center. However Mike is an enthusiastic bonsai artist, has joined the club. and bought a significant number of items from the auction, again, at bargain prices. Welcome Mike.

The weather was hot but there was a cool breeze with low humidity, which made it all very comfortable, fun, and money for the club. Thank you all who came and were helpful in making this a success.



LAST MONTH — JULY 18TH — OPEN WORKSHOP —BYOB

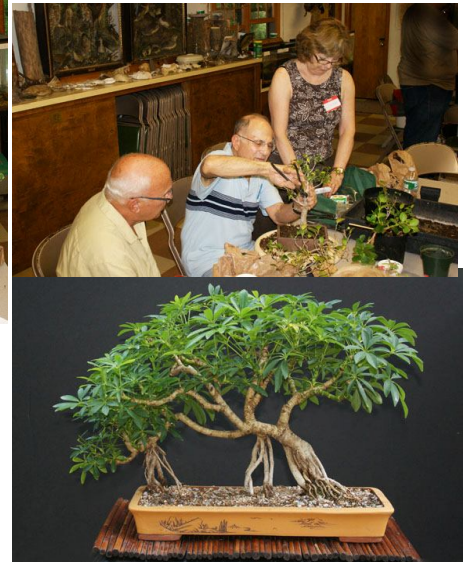
Our July meeting was special, since it was an experiment using a new format. Instead of one person offering a critique of each of our trees, we were able to bring in a tree that we wanted to work on and have several people offer suggestions. Then we were able to chose the one that suited us the best and begin work on the "material" to convert it into the beginnings of a bonsai.

This seemed to work really well. It emphasized the thought that there are many different possible bonsai in a single piece of material that we are working with and each one could be a lovely bonsai that we would like very much. But by having them pointed out by many different "experts", we could chose the one that suited us the best and fulfilled our idea of what it should look like. Sometimes it just stimulated our imagination and we could see a tree that none of the "experts" saw that we liked even more. It looks like a good format for future meetings.

I think the experiment worked quite well. For example, Rose had a very large base tall elm with lots of dead wood. There were suggestions from everything to cutting it down to a very short tree to leaving the entire structure and work around what was there. I thought each had its merits and each could have made a fine bonsai. Rose has a lot of options and it will be interesting to see which one she eventually chooses. Perhaps she will bring it in again and let us know. Others had similar experiences and it was an educational and fun session with quite a bit of work accomplished during the meeting.



Welcome to new member Don Politi. Don started his first bonsai from a schefflera at home. It is a somewhat uncommon species to use for bonsai so Bob Pruski was kind enough to bring one in to show the club a very interesting one that he designed. He demonstrated very visually that this species can and does make for a very nice bonsai.



Arbuticola Schefflera

THIS MONTH — AUG 15TH — OPEN WORKSHOP — BYOB

The program will be the same as we had in July, a short business meeting followed by an open BYOB workshop.

Bring in a tree or two that you want to style (re-style) or just want to do some maintenance work on it. Our more experienced members will assist those who need a little help. And you can always get plenty of different opinions on your tree to consider. The objective is to get together as a group, work on our trees and have fun. Last month we had many enthusiastic members participate and found this type of workshop very worthwhile.

If you don't have a tree to bring, your company, companionship, input and help is always welcome. And of course you are always urged to bring a friend, guest and new members are always welcome.

NEXT MEETING — SEPT 19th — GUEST ARTIST — MARTY SCHMALENBERG (BYOB WORKSHOP)

For the September 19 meeting Bergen Bonsai will be fortunate enough to have visiting bonsai professional Marty Schmalenberg. Marty first started studying bonsai in the 1970's, and since that time he has become quite a bonsai artist and instructor headlining in many bonsai conventions. Over the years Marty has studied in Japan with Hiroyoshi Yamaji and Mikio Oshima and with many others in the United States.

Marty will be presenting a detailed examination of the literati or bunjin style of bonsai in the morning and conduct a styling workshop in the afternoon. This promises to be one of the highlights of the 2010 season for Bergen Bonsai, one you should not miss.

There are still openings for this workshop, so if you want to work with an established artist this is your chance. Contact Peter Sobel or Bob Pruski to reserve your place for this workshop.

BBS WBSITE

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

LIBRARY

As usual, the **complete** Library inventory is posted on our website (BergenBonsai.com). Please contact our Librarians (for magazines — Diane; video — David; books — Rose), 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.

OFFICERS & STAFF

<u>OFFICEES</u>	
President	Bob Pruski
Vice President	Virginia Shen
Treasurer	Mitch Becker
Secretary	Marlene Cuniberti
<u>EXECUTIVE COM-MITEE</u>	
Mitch Becker	Bob Pruski
Marlene Cuniberti	Ralf Schumann
Rose Chan	Virginia Shen
Teresa Plummer	Peter Sobel
Victor Plummer	Len Schwartz

<u>COMMITTEES</u>	
Library (Videos)	David Feitelson
Library (Hard Cover Books)	Rose Chan
Library (Bonsai Today/Focus)	Diann Pinkowski
Library (Int'l Bonsai, BCL misc.)	Diann Pinkowski
Hospitality	Teresa Plummer
Refreshments	Elsbeth Christern Ralf Schumann
Tokonoma	
Good & Welfare	Virginia Shen
Executive Board Meetings	Jim Killian
MidAtlantic Representatives	Len Schwartz
Programs	Bob Pruski Peter Sobel
Newsletter Production	Rose Chan
Photographer	Bob Pruski
Newsletter Reporter	Mitch Becker
Website	Bob Pruski

BBS 2010 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

1. **March 21st** **Temperate Tree W/S (trees supplied)**
Morning Workshop— Regular Meeting Time. No Potting—Styling Only
2. **April 25th** **BYOB W/S with Guest Artist—Charles Ceronio (MidAtlantic Guest Artist)**
Afternoon Workshop— (after morning Lecture/Demo)
3. **July 18th** **Open Workshop (BYOB)**
Regular Meeting Time — Open to all members—Registration Required
4. **Aug 15th** **Open Workshop (BYOB)**
Regular Meeting Time — Open to all members — Registration Required — Limit 1 Tree per Member
5. **Sept 19th** **BYOB W/S with Guest Artist—Marty Schmalenberg**
Afternoon Workshop— (after morning Lecture/Demo)
6. **Oct 17th** **Scotts Pine W/S with Guest Artist— David Easterbrook (trees supplied)**
Afternoon Workshop—(after morning Lecture/Demo)

Workshop Registration Form

Member's Name _____ Date Reg. Sent _____ Total Fee Enclosed \$ _____

To participate, check boxes below

<u>W/S#</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Conducted By</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Payable</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Silent*</u> <u>Observer @ \$10</u> <u>(BBS)</u>
1.	Mar 21	Temperate Tree (supplied)	Sobel / Pruski	TBD	BBS		
2.	Apr 25	BYOB	Charles Ceronio	\$40	BBS		
3.	Jul 18	Open Workshop BYOB	Sobel / Pruski	\$0			
4.	Aug 15	Open Workshop BYOB	Sobel / Pruski	\$0			
5.	Sept 19	BYOB	Marty Schmalenberg	\$40	BBS		
6.	Oct 17	Scotts Pine (supplied)	David Easterbrook	\$40 +	BBS		

* This is an excellent opportunity to learn styling by watching many trees being styled. Registration open to all Members on a **first come, first serve basis.** **For all Workshops:** Participants to bring trees (if applicable), turntables, wire, tools, etc (and potting materials, if applicable).

Detach & **mail** (or bring to next meeting) this Registration Form (with check for Workshop or Observer) to Peter Sobel
129 Deerhaven Road Mahwah, NJ 07430 — Make checks payable to: the Bergen Bonsai Society

DON'T FORGET: If you register and then find out later that you can't come, please have the courtesy to call Peter Sobel or Bob Pruski.

These events and their specific details are subject to change.