

The Bergen Bonsai Society

Sept 2010 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Sunday, Sept. 19th

Time: 9:45 AM—1:30 PM

Place: Closter Nature Center

154 Ruchman Rd. Closter, NJ 07624



GUEST ARTIST MARTY SCHMALENBERG

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 — AM L/D & Aft BYOB W/S</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>X</u> | | |
| | May 16 | <u>BERGEN SHOW — Environmental Center Wyckoff, NJ (1pm-5pm)</u> | | | | <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 AM L/D & Aft BYOB W/S</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>X</u> | | |
| | October 17 | <u>GUEST ARTIST — David Easterbook (MATERIAL SUPPLIED)— AM L/D & Aft W/S</u> | <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

LAST MONTH'S MEETING — AUG. 15TH — OPEN WORKSHOP —BYOB



July can be a busy bonsai month with heavy work often necessary on tropical trees. However, enough members made it to the July meeting to make it very interesting and informative. The business portion of the meeting which started on time was short. We then began the fun part with a discussion of the **tokonoma** that I brought it. It was a **bougainvillea** with lots of bright red flowers covering it. In each red flower there was a small bright yellow stamen. This is a very old tree with an 8 inch trunk and a 14 inch base. It has been damaged many times in storms and was once split in half by a falling very large maple tree branch that at the same time split a concrete bird bath.

I reviewed a new method of caring for my tropical trees (they are the only ones that I have facilities for) that has caused them to explode in their new southwest location on my small patio with nothing to block the sun until late afternoon. They are watered as needed (usually 1/day in the summer) with about a ½ dose of the recommendation of a water soluble fertilizer (ie 15/30/15) every time I water. When it rains, the excess fertilizer is washed out since I use a very well draining soil. Once a month in the warm weather I also add some fish emulsion along with some soluble kelp. I slowly decrease the amounts so that by winter, the dosage is down to about an 1/8th of the normal dose. I also mist the trees as often as possible with a pinch of fertilizer in the misting water (sometimes 3-4 times a day in the summer). The only “drawback” is that I have to pinch and prune a lot more often than I ever did because this method seems to allow them to grow rapidly but the pruning and pinching results in lots of ramification and allows me to control the styling more easily.

I hope that this gives you something to think about and by adopting some of these methods, helps your trees.

The meeting was very helpful to those who brought trees that needed some input regarding styling and cutting. Each tree received many opinions because each plant contained a variety of possible bonsai that could be evolved depending upon the owners liking. I think that those who brought in trees were very pleased with the results. Some wanted to think about it but others selected a style that they liked best and began working on their tree immediately. If there was a problem along the way, there were several members available to help. Thanks to all the advanced members willing to give their time to help others.

Written by Mitchell Becker



THIS MONTH'S MEETING — SEPT. 19TH — GUEST ARTIST 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.

NEXT MEETING —OCT 17TH — GUEST ARTIST — DAVID EASTERBROOK (MATERIAL SUPPLIED)



David Eaterbrook has been one of Bergen Bonsai Societies favorites for years. He was with us in April of 2009 and gave us one of that year's most memorable demos. Who can forget the fabulous weeping willow he styled. This year he will be with us again on September 20th, working on a Scotts Pine in a literati style. This again will be a Bergen Bonsai's event not to be missed.

David comes to us from Montreal where he has been curator of the Montreal Botanical Garden's bonsai collection since 1982. Among the most prestigious collections in North America, it includes 30 masterpiece bonsai donated by the Nippon Bonsai Association, 40 dwarf potted trees from the collection of Hong Kong banker Dr. Wu Yee-Sun, over 300 **penjing** donated by the People's Republic of China, new specimens of Vietnamese bonsai and a North American bonsai collection featuring outstanding mature bonsai created by North American experts including our own George LeBolt.

David began growing bonsai in 1970 and is owner of a bonsai nursery. He studied bonsai in Japan in 1981 and teaches regular bonsai classes as well as being a well-known lecturer and demonstrator in northeastern US and Canada and also France. He served as president of the Montreal Bonsai Society in 1982 and 1983 and was chairman of the American Bonsai Society convention which was held in Montreal in July 1988. He has also authored two books on bonsai and bonsai care and techniques.

This is one meeting you don't want to miss. Come early because we will start on time, we don't want to waste a minute of our time with David.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY — DEC 12TH — NOON TILL 3 PM

Another year is drawing down and we (& most of our trees) have survived and prospered. Time to celebrate it all, as we gather together for our traditional Holiday Luncheon Party. This year we will try a different cuisine **Taj Palace Restaurant** at 513 Cedar Lane Teaneck, NJ 07666 Tel: 201-530-1950

We are holding the cost to only \$14 per member (\$16 for guest) — a Zagat “best Buy”. Our actual cost is much higher, but BBS underwrites the difference.

Seating is limited to 40 and we are always fully subscribed. Everyone will receive a gift and there will also be three surprise door prizes.

Please join us, fill out the attached Reservation Form and bring it (with payment) to our next meeting.

If you can't be at the meeting, mail it ASAP, to **Mitchell Becker, Treasurer**
85 Quarry Drive
Woodland Park, NJ 07424

2010 Holiday Party Reservation Form

Yes, I will surely join the Holiday Festivities Dec 12th 2010 !! Check payable to **Bergen Bonsai Society**

Date form Submitted _____ Name: _____

Number of Members _____ @ \$ 14 each Number of guest _____ @ \$16 each

OFFICERS & STAFF

| <u>OFFICERS</u> | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Bob Pruski |
| Vice President | Virginia Shen |
| Treasurer | Mitch Becker |
| Secretary | Marlene Cuniberti |
| <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</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.