

The Bergen Bonsai Society

Oct 2010 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Sunday, Oct. 17th

Time: 9:45 AM—1:30 PM

Place: Closter Nature Center

154 Ruchman Rd. Closter, NJ 07624



GUEST ARTIST DAVID EASTERBROOK

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</u> <u>MTG</u> | <u>AFT</u> <u>MTG</u> | <u>EVE</u> <u>MTG</u> | <u>AWAY</u> <u>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 Easterbrook (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 — SEPT. 19TH — GUEST ARTIST MARTY-SCHMALENBERG (BYOB WORKSHOP)

The excitement, enthusiasm, and emotion that Marty Schmalenberg conveyed to our members was contagious. For me, Marty was certainly among the most, if not the most exciting and interesting guest artist that we have had at our club since I have been a member.

Marty started with a series of some 30 fascinating slides, with a detailed discussion of each. With his experience as a teacher, Asian history expert, bonsai artist with studies in Japan and China, and multiple other talents, he conveyed to us the background of the origins of Asian art, poetry, and bonsai. Sounds boring? NO WAY coming from Marty.

Back in the 15th and 16th centuries, Chinese scholars, teachers, and intellects would gather in facilities constructed especially to stimulate creativity in art and poetry (like the Chinese garden on Staten Island that we visited). The goal was to put on canvas and into words, feelings and emotions that the individual was sensing based on visions and memories in their lives. There was an outcropping of art and poetry never before seen. In this art form, one can sense the beginnings of a appreciation for nature and the landscape around them, presented in a way that conveyed their reaction and emotions to what they were seeing, hearing, and above all feeling.

One of the first bonsai art forms was bunjin (China) or literati (Japan). Marty is an artist and this style has a special appeal for him. He reviewed the whys and wherefores of this type of design. “Does the tree go from left to right or right to left” was a fun question that he posed to us often. “Feel the design and let the eye tell you where the tree is going”.

The large yamadori pine tree that he converted into a exciting bonsai with some help from Peter, Len, and myself doing some wiring and jining ended up as a wonderful piece of material with tremendous potential. The raffles sold very well. Most of us wanted to win this piece of nature but only one winner was possible and that was Jeanne Yu. Lucky lady!!! You have a marvelous piece of material to develop into a extraordinary bonsai.



The workshop that followed just emphasized Marty's eye for finding the best bonsai trees within large pieces of material that each participant brought in for decision making . It was truly a “workshop” with everyone choosing a design and working to achieve the beginnings of an end product.





Thanks again Marty.

We also welcomed into our club Mary Thomson, a new bonsai enthusiast.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING —OCT 17TH — GUEST ARTIST — DAVID EASTERBROOK (MATERIAL SUPPLIED)



David Easterbrook 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 Oct 17th, 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.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING —NOVEMEBER 21ST., —BERGEN BONSAI SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SHOW



Pictured above is part of the show from 2009

Our annual show is fast approaching, and we would like to see everyone participate. After all we are a bonsai club and this is the time for us to shine. Whether you're just a beginner or one of our more experienced bonsai artists this is the time to show everyone what you've got. So start now on selecting a tree and begin getting it ready to display.

Support your club and bring in a tree to display. There will be no harsh critique, only a few observations made from some of our members on what they like about your tree and what you might do to improve it. This helps everyone learn, by seeing other member's trees and getting some ideas on how to improve their own efforts.

BBS also needs to start thinking now about participating in Mid-Atlantic's spring festival and this is a perfect way for us to get started. So bring your tree(s) for consideration to be shown at MABS.

GOOD AND WELFARE

We are so sorry to report that Bob's mother-in-law has past away on Thursday before our Sept meeting.

Good news is that John Ricco, David Feitelson, and Bryce Hugelmeyer are back attending the meetings again after their serious medical problems. It is great to see them again.

Welcome back!

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.