

The Bergen Bonsai Society

JULY 2011 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Sunday, July 17th

Time: 9:45 AM –5 PM

Place: Closter Nature Center

154 Ruchman Rd. Closter, NJ



OPEN WORKSHOP
BYOB
MATERIAL SUPPLIED

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



Year 2011 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 16	<u>GUEST ARTIST— Dick Rauh — Drawing Bonsai</u> (presentation/demo)	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	February 20	<u>ELECTION OF BBS BOARD — POT SALE</u>	<u>X</u>			
	March 20	<u>PRESENTATION BONSAI SOIL POTTING/ RE-POTTING WORKSHOP — TEMPERATE TREE WORKSHOP</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
*	April	<u>NO MEETING</u>				
	April 15,16,17	<u>MID-ATLANTIC SPRING FESTIVAL</u>				<u>X</u>
	May 15	<u>BERGEN SHOW — Environmental Center Wyckoff, NJ (1pm-5pm)</u>		<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>
*	June 12	<u>ANNUAL PICNIC & AUCTION @ Lakeside (12 noon – 3pm)</u>		<u>X</u>		
	July 17	<u>OPEN WORKSHOP — BYOB / MATERIAL SUPPLIED</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	August 21	<u>GUEST ARTIST — John Romano—AM L/D & PM workshop</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	September 17	<u>EVENING POT-LUCK DINNER WITH A DEMO BY Eric Auger</u>			<u>X</u>	
	September 18	<u>GUEST ARTIST — Eric Auger — CONSTRUCTIVE CRITIQUE</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	October 16	<u>GUEST ARTIST —David Easterbrook —AM L/D & PM workshop</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		
	November 20	<u>WINTERING REVIEW AND ANNUAL SHOW AND CRITIQUE</u>	<u>X</u>			
	December 11	<u>HOLIDAY PARTY</u>		<u>X</u>		<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 —JUNE 12th—ANNUAL PICNIC AND AUCTION

12PM—3PM

The big question was “Is it going to rain?” Well, it didn’t, and the Bergen Bonsai Society’s annual picnic and auction fundraiser went off without a hitch. Good friends, good food, and top quality auction items were in the forecast as it is every year. What could be better than sitting in a lovely natural setting with some of the nicest people in New Jersey, having a great lunch and going home with that bonsai item you always wanted at a great bargain price?

After everyone ate their fill (and then some), Bob Pruski, our president, opened the agenda with a few short announcements. Then Mitch Becker had the floor to recognize and thank everyone who made the picnic come together so smoothly. The only somber time of the day came when Bob had to announce the passing of John Ricco, one of our beloved members of many years. John’s wife, Mary was kind enough to donate some of John’s trees, tools, and books for the auction.

Then the auction was off to a flying start. Peter Sobel and Bob Pruski did an auctioneering tag team match and kept the items coming. Many quality items were donated by our members for the event, and we are grateful for their generosity. Because members brought in that pot, tree, or tool that they no longer needed or that just didn’t fit their collection, many members were able to find just the thing they needed for theirs and have fun to boot!

What a great day. We hope that next year’s event will be even better.



THIS MEETING —JULY 17th — OPEN WORKSHOP — BYOB — MATERIAL SUP-PLIED

We will be using our new format of the open workshop. This was a format we experimented with last year that we had great success with. Instead of one person chairing the workshop 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 choose 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 choose 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.

Everyone is encouraged to participate by bringing in a tree to work on and to be prepared to offer help and advice to others in the group who may need that extra bit of advice and your years of experience. We have a number of new members who would appreciate any help that would be offered.

NEXT MEETING — AUG 21 st —GUEST ARTIST — JOHN ROMANO — AM L/D & PM WORKSHOP



Who is John Romano

BIO” I have studied bonsai for close to 30 years. I have been working at New England Bonsai Gardens for the past 10 years teaching and styling trees. Run the Kaikou School of Bonsai at New England Bonsai Gardens.

I've studied for a short time at Taisho en in Shizuoka Japan with Mr. Urushibata, worked with artists in residence at NEBG: Kenji Miyata, Hiromi Tsukada, Mitsuo Matsuda. “

“ My first experience with plants was at 4 years old- helping my Italian Grandfather plant seeds and later pruning apple, pear and fig trees in the garden. This was my first 'crossing path' with trees. In 1975 I started to 'play' with bonsai. It was more like creating a morgue for trees! After this first foray in futility, I stumbled upon some good books and finally found New England Bonsai Gardens (then in South Natick) and my passion was rooted. I've had many teachers over the years - in single courses and workshops - as well as more extensive learning relationships with Kenji Miyata at New England Bonsai Gardens and a short study period at Taisho en in Shizuoka, Japan with shohin bonsai master, Nobuichi Urushibata. I have been teaching bonsai classes and private students at New England Bonsai Gardens since 2000. “



GOOD AND WELFARE

As you know Mitch had undergone open heart surgery on 6/22. He had some complications and it became necessary to go back into surgery the next day and open him up again. He has had a rough time during his post surgery recovery. There have been a few times when Mitch had an unstable condition that cause him to go back to the hospital for observation. The last we heard was he is out of atrial fib (at least for now) and getting a bit stronger. He is back at home. Now it's just a matter of tweaking his meds and time to heal.. Andrea ,his wife, has been keeping us abreast of his condition and if anything changes we will pass on the information.

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**). See what you want, contact our Librarians (For Videos — David; Hard Cover Books — Rose; Bonsai Today/ Focus —Diane and Int'l Bonsai, BCL Misc — John), 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. The library is a treasure of information just waiting to answer all of your questions and some that you haven't even thought about yet. Use these winter months to answer the questions that you have about your trees and get answers in time for the growing season.

OFFICERS & STAFF

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Vice President	Peter Sobel
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Marlene Cuniberti	Ralf Schumann
Rose Chan	Al Keller
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Len Schwartz	

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Library (Hard Cover Books)	Rose Chan
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Library (Int'l Bonsai, BCL misc.)	Diann Pinkowski
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