



The Bergen Bonsai Society

July 2007 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Sunday, July 15th

Time: 12 NOON

Closter Nature Center

154 Ruckman Road, Closter NJ 07624

MAIN PROGRAM

ANNUAL PICNIC &
AUCTION

The Bergen Bonsai Society

Incorporated
P.O. Box 822
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666



Year 2007 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>AWA Y MTG</u>
January 21	<u>Bonsai Video & Pot Sale</u>	X			
February 18	<u>Power Point Slide Show & Discussion</u> -- Peter Sobel	X			
March 25	<u>Two Juniper Workshops</u> (AM & AFTN) -- G. LeBolt	X			
April 18	<u>MABS Guest Artist – Robert Stevens</u> --(Indonesia) Note: WED W/S & L/D		X	X	
April 20-22	<u>MidAtlantic (MABS) Convention</u> @ Ramada Inn (E. Hanover, NJ)				X
May 6	<u>Guest Artist – Roy Nagatoshi</u> -- (California) L/D & W/S	X	X		
June 3	<u>Tropical Trees Lect/Demo & Workshop (trees supplied)</u> -- G. LeBolt	X			
July 15	<u>Annual Picnic & Auction</u> @ Lakeside (12noon-3pm)		X		
August 19	<u>Styling Open Workshop (BYOB)</u> -- G. LeBolt	X			
September 16	<u>Guest Artist – Julian Adams</u> -- (Georgia) L/D & W/S	X	X		
October 21	<u>Guest Artist – (TBD) OR Annual Show & Critique</u> – G. LeBolt	X	?		
November 18	<u>Annual Show & Critique OR Guest Artist – (TBD)</u>	X	?		
?	<u>Possible Collecting Trip -- Deer Browsed Apples</u> -- (N.Y. State)				X
?	<u>Possible 1 Day Bus Trip -- Chinese Scholars Garden</u> – (Staten Island)				X
December 9	<u>Annual Holiday Party</u> (12noon–3pm)				X

● Indicates a change since last newsletter in date or event

NOTES

1. All meetings @ Closter Nature Center are on Sundays (**except** APR 18th)
2. All morning meetings @ Closter Nature Center start 9:45 AM to APX. 1:30PM
3. All afternoon meetings @ Closter Nature Center start APX. 2PM to APX. 5:00PM

LAST MONTH – JUNE 3RD – TROPICAL TREE LECT/DEMO & WORKSHOP – G. LeBOLT

Our Morning Business Meeting covered some very important topics. A complete report was given regarding MidAtlantic Hotel problems, & the fact that we might be moving to a new location for '08, at the Hudson Valley Resort in the Catskill Mountains.

We also discussed Club finances & the increased costs we encountered, especially in bringing in such fine visiting Bonsai Artists for Lect/Demos & Workshops. Next year the dues will be \$35 (\$45 family), still the worlds greatest bargain. Also, we will have to cut down on the Clubs underwriting of our various events, & things like out Workshops, Picnic, Holiday Party, etc., will have to be reasonably self-supporting. All in attendance indicated their understanding & a willingness to help.

For our AM Lect/Demo, George had selected a Ficus Retusa. It had an excellent base, but as your eye traveled further up the branches, the more confused everything became. George examined several options available for the front and carefully explained the advantages & disadvantages of each. After selecting the best view, George began to remove many of the major branches. The best part of this is that he carefully & fully explained to us just why certain branches had to be removed (too heavy, wrong location, not in harmony with proposed evolving design, etc.) & why certain other branches became important components of the “new” tree.

Soon, 75% of the branches lay on the floor, & the remaining 25% had to be wired, positioned & shaped. None of us originally envisioned the well designed “old” tree that was created, when the original material was presented, but we certainly did appreciate the result.



BEFORE



DURING



AFTER

Write-up of Afternoon Workshop by Mitch Becker

Our visiting Bonsai Master came from far away Closter, NJ, and we think the trip was well worth it. He not only brought himself, but he also brought 9 tropical pre-Bonsai plants (that he selected in Florida for this event) which were outstanding material. Further, our Members were able to get a bargain by paying the wholesale price with no profit to BBS. There were some with trunk spreads up to 8” in diameter. There were some with branches stretching out over 2 ½ feet in each direction. There were many different varieties, including Nea Buxafolia, Ficus Retusa, Green Island, Nerifolia, & Burt Davyi -- plus a lot of happy people faces.

Master LeBolt got to work by asking each participant individually for their ideas of where the Bonsai was hiding inside of these bushes. After much discussion, the clippers & cutters got to work finding the beauty from within. As much of the tree was removed “to give you less to wire” said George, each person got to work putting the wire on their plants. Finally, the branches were positioned, bent & shaped, and each participant left with a tree that already had the look of an aged Bonsai. Now all that was needed was more refinement & more ramification, all of which will come with a little diligence & time.

Much “growing and cutting” is necessary, but this method does work. As an addendum to last months column, my Ficus Retusa that left the Nagatoshi Workshop without a single leaf and had stumps for branches, positively exploded several weeks into the recent hot weather. I now have a compact Bonsai with many branches to choose from. IT WORKS!.....to be continued.

THIS MONTH -- JULY 15TH – ANNUAL PICNIC & AUCTION

Lucky us! Time for our 126th Annual Picnic & Auction!

As usual, this event will be held Lakeside at the Nature Center. (In the event of inclement weather, we go inside the cabin.) We are scheduled from NOON till apx 3:00PM. We expect to have the same caterer as last year, with plenty of great food and cold drinks. Make sure you bring a folding chair – we'll supply everything else.

As everyone knows, this is one of our Main Events of the year. Not only do we all have the chance to relax & socialize together (in between the feasting) but, equally important, it's our MAIN FUNDRAISING EVENT.

Towards this goal, we need ALL of our Members to attend & to support our Club. If you didn't attend in the past years, put it on your calendar now, & make sure you join with us.

Bring scads of Bonsai & Bonsai related items, but even more important, bring tons of \$ to purchase all the "treasures" that will be auctioned off. George says he will contribute some very interesting items.

Not only do we expect everyone to have a great time, but we absolutely need your auction support to continue to provide you with terrific programs & activities.

Please fill out the Reservation Form below & Mail it (**PDQ**) to George LeBolt (404 Homans Ave, Closter, NJ 07624) together with payment (to BBS) enclosed. Please send this is ASAP – we need to get a count for the caterer.

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Picnic and Auction Reservation Form

Yes, I will happily attend the 126TH annual BBS picnic on **July 15th**.

Enclosed is my check payable to Bergen Bonsai Society for \$12 each for _____ members
\$15 each for _____ guests

Please mail this form & your payment check to George @ 404 Homans Ave, Closter, NJ 07624 ASAP

NAME: _____

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NEXT MONTH – AUG. 19TH – STYLING OPEN WORKSHOP – G. LeBOLT

We usually have a big turnout for our Styling Workshop and all of our Members profit from the styling advice offered by George for each of the many trees.

Unfortunately, it seems only a few of our Members remain to actually work on their trees & to implement the styling suggestions. Clearly, those who do profit the most.

At a recent BBS Exec. Bd. Meeting, it was suggested that we change the format for this Meeting as follows:

1. Minimize the Business Meeting
2. AM Styling Workshop – open to all (with advance registration) – A nominal \$10 charge (to BBS) for design review & analysis by George
3. PM Hands-on Workshop – (included in \$10 fee) conducted by other advanced Members of BBS, to help all Members achieve the styling suggestions originally given by George (in the morning).

We would like to see more Members doing the hands-on work with their trees, & also involve more Members in teaching & assisting others.

We will discuss this at the Picnic & determine if the program change is wanted & should be implemented.

OFFICERS & STAFF

<u>OFFICERS</u>	
President	George LeBolt
Vice President	Virginia Shen
Treasurer	Mitch Becker
<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u>	
Mitch Becker	Teresa & Victor Plummer
Marlene Cuniberti	Bob Pruski
Shepherd Haight	Virginia Shen
George LeBolt	Peter Sobel

<u>COMMITTEES</u>	
Library (Publications)	Peter Sobel
Library (Video Tapes)	John Ricco
Hospitality	Judy LeBolt Teresa Plummer
Refreshments	Elsbeth Christern Mildred Rooney
Tokonoma	Mehru Cama
Good & Welfare	Jane Boutis
Executive Board Meetings	Jim Killian
Demo. Tree Follow-up	Marlene Cuniberti
MidAtlantic	George LeBolt Len Schwartz
Programs	George LeBolt
Newsletter Production	Shepherd Haight
Photographer	Bob Pruski
Website:	Peter Sobel Bob Pruski
www.bergenbonsai.com	

STUDY GROUP SESSIONS

2007 STUDY GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Tel: _____ Date Registration Submitted: _____

General Information:

Study Group sessions are hands-on workshops designed to improve your Bonsai knowledge, skills and artistic design abilities. Participants will not only be involved with their own trees, but with design considerations and enhancement techniques for ALL trees of ALL participants.

All day sessions are from 10AM to 4PM (sometimes later) and are limited to **6** participants. (Minimum of 4 required to hold session.) Sessions are conducted at 404 Homans Ave., Closter, NJ 07624, or at the Nature Center.

Bring 3 or 4 trees, lunch, tools, wire, pots, etc. (some plant material & supplies available). Cost: \$40 for single session, \$100 for series of 3. Priority is given to earliest registrants.

1 st Series	2 nd Series	3 rd Series	4 th Series	5 th Series
Sun 4/29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sat 6/16 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sun 7/22 <input type="checkbox"/>	TBD <input type="checkbox"/>	TBD <input type="checkbox"/>
Sat 5/12 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sun 6/24 <input type="checkbox"/>	Sun 8/5 <input type="checkbox"/>	TBD <input type="checkbox"/>	TBD <input type="checkbox"/>
Sun 5/20 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sun 7/8 <input type="checkbox"/>	Sun 8/26 <input type="checkbox"/>	TBD <input type="checkbox"/>	TBD <input type="checkbox"/>

F = Filled

Please check appropriate boxes for reservations and mail with payment to George LeBolt, 404 Homans Av, Closter, NJ 07624. (Phone Reservations accepted. Call 201-768-7455)

Some of our Members have never participated in a Study Group session and literally don't know what they're missing. As demonstrated in past years, these sessions tend to fill up early!

We urge anyone how has not yet had the benefits of this experience to sign up for at least one of these sessions this year. **Don't miss this opportunity!**

If you need a tree (Indoor or Outdoor) for the Study Group, give George a call ASAP at 201-768-7455. He may have some available, or based on your need, may be able to obtain what you want.

Late June or July is an excellent time to repot your Tropical trees (under supervision)!