

The Bergen Bonsai Society

Mar 2010 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Sunday, Mar. 21st.

Time: 9:45AM

Place: Closter Nature Center

154 Ruchman Rd. Closter, NJ 07624



MAIN PROGRAM TEMPERATE TREE WORKSHOP

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 (MATERIAL SUPPLIED) WORKSHOP</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 20 | <u>ANNUAL PICNIC & AUCTION</u> @ Lakeside (12 noon – 3pm) | | <u>X</u> | | |
| July 18 | <u>TROPICAL WORKSHOP — BYOB</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>X</u> | | |
| August 15 | <u>STYLING OPEN WORKSHOP — BYOB</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)—</u> AM L/D & Aft W/S | <u>X</u> | <u>X</u> | | |
| November 21 | <u>WINTERING REVIEW & ANNUAL SHOW & CRITQUE</u> | <u>X</u> | | | |
| December 12 | <u>ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY (12 noon– 3pm)</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

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 **Tropical Tree W/S (BYOB)**
Regular Meeting Time — Open to all members—Registration Required
4. Aug 15th **Styling Open W/S (BYOB)**
Regular Meeting Time — Open to all members — Registration Require — Limitation: 1 Tree per Member
5. Sept 19th **BYOB W/S with Guest Artist—Marty Schmalenber**
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 | BYOB | Sobel /Pruski | \$0 | | | |
| 4. | Aug 15 | Tropical Trees 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 Bob Pruski, 16 Hamilton St., Montvale, NJ 07645 — 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 there specific details ae subject to change.

LAST MONTH — FEB 21 ST — ELECTION, POT SALE & TOOL SHARPENING

The February meeting went like “clockwork” starting at 10:00 AM sharp and ending at about noon. Virginia opened the meeting with the agenda for the morning.

I The first order of business was our “annual” election. Virginia explained that we are following our by-laws established with the federal government when we applied for our tax-free status. The process involves electing board members who will then elect the officers of the club. A slate of the current board members was presented to the members about a month ago. Additional nominations were opened at this meeting. No new nominations were forthcoming and the slate was elected by the general members.

II Why do we have to keep our tool sharp and how does one sharpen tools the way the **pros do??** Ralph Schumann explained why it is important to have sharp tools for the health of our bonsai and then gave us a detailed demonstration of how to achieve it. We learned the technique for sharpening each of the common bonsai tools that we use. Ralph demonstrated the process on each tool from the initial cleaning to the removal of the final burrs after the sharpening process.

III The club is very fortunate in having inherited an assortment of very fine pots from various member contributions. A selection of them were chosen for this annual pot sale. There were quite a few very expensive Japanese pots as well as beginner pots priced at levels that could only be available due to our generous member contributions. Our members were sharp in spotting these bargains and the sale was a great success.



IV A board meeting was held after the general meeting. The board elected the following officers:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| President: | Bob Pruski |
| Vice Pres.: | Virginia Shen |
| Secretary: | Marlene Cuniberti |
| Treasurer: | Mitch Becker |
| Committee chairs: | Same as last year. |

*** Our thanks to all of the volunteers who work so hard to make our club a success. ***



Ralf and his white pine was presented



This month's Tokonoma

THIS MONTH — MAR 21ST — TEMPERATE TREE WORKSHOP

As explained at the January meeting, we will have a temperate (outdoor) tree workshop with the material supplied. Bob and Peter have located three good looking types of plants in 3 price ranges for us. Photos of the tree types were shown to January attendees and people expressed their interest. At the February meeting we took orders and collected money for your trees.

After our business portion of the meeting on 3/21, our first work-shop for 2010 will proceed. Three different tree varieties were ordered (kingville boxwood, green-mound juniper, and shimpaku juniper). Each participant's tree will be evaluated by few of **BBS** most talented artist to help give directions for styling. Then the trees owner will start to work on their tree (with the aide of a club members if they so desire).

This is the first time **BBS** will conduct a styling work-shop without a guest artist and hopefully, with it's success, can be the start of a new era for us. This will take a lot of coordination and corporation from all the members as we try to navigate through this new period of workshops without the aide of our beloved George LeBolt to guide our styling efforts. So we ask that all members try to help each other, especially try to aide our newer members who may be doing their first workshop with us.

NEXT MONTH—APR 25TH — GUEST ARTIST — CHARLES CERONIO

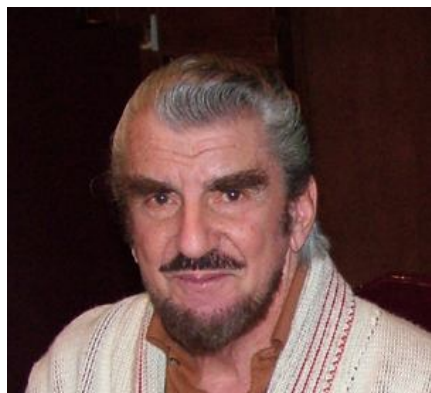
Charles Ceronio started growing bonsai in 1968. He is the President and a co-founder of the Pretoria Bonsai Kai. In 1981, Charles and a small group of South African bonsai growers attended the 25th Anniversary of the California Bonsai Society on the invitation of John Naka. Charles was Mr Naka's assistant in Pretoria during his numerous visits to South Africa. Charles has been a John Naka disciple ever since. Other great masters who had an influence on Charles are Ben Oki and Roy Nagatoshi. Charles gave a talk on "**The Winds of Change to Indigenous Bonsai Styles for South Africa**" at the first bonsai convention held in Cape Town in 1980. At that convention, he introduced South African bonsai enthusiasts to six new African styles that he had created. Charles' favorite bonsai style is, surprisingly, not the Pierneef or Baobab styles, but rather forest plantings. In 1999, he published his book *Bonsai Styles of the World*. Regarded as the bonsai bible on styles, a second edition was published in 2004. During 1999 and 2000, two of Charles's trees were selected as being among the 100 best trees in the world in the **JAL World Bonsai Contest** held under the auspices of the Nippon Bonsai Association. He was a headliner at the 2005 World Bonsai Convention in Washington, DC. At present, Charles is working on a book on indigenous plants suitable for bonsai in Southern Africa.

There will be workshop in the afternoon. Participant will require to sign up by this upcoming meeting on 3/21. So if you want to take part, fill out a workshop registration form (one is in this newsletter) and mail it in or see Peter Sobel at the meeting 03/21. This workshop should fill up fast so **expediency** is suggested. Remember this is "**bring your own tree**" to work on. **Material will not be supplied.**

In Memoriam

George LeBolt

December 31, 1929 - February 27, 2010



George was best known as a passionate devotee of the art of bonsai and had been involved in bonsai for more than 40 years. He first studied with Frank Okimora at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden for a year, and then with Yugi Yoshimura at the New York Botanical Garden for 5 years. He was an Executive Board Member of the MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies for 12 years and was its President for 2 years. He was the President of the Bergen Bonsai Society for 16 years.

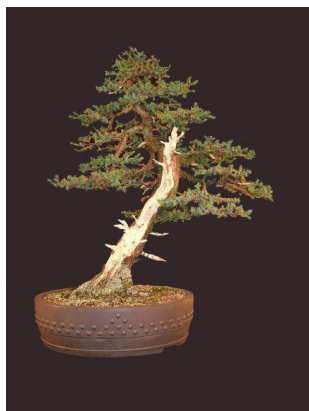
He had been teaching and lecturing on bonsai for over 20 years, presenting lecture/demonstrations, workshops and all day study group sessions. Many years ago, he became particularly fascinated with tropical trees and began to specialize in tropical bonsai. His trees had garnered many honors, including the "Bonsai Clubs International's President Award", the MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies "Presidents Award" and "Best In Show" Award. He was also a Bonsai Presenting Artist at the MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies 25th Annual Festival in April, 2008, in New York.

His vast collection of Bonsai has been donated for permanent display to the Montreal Botanical Gardens in Montreal, Canada. Anyone who wanted to make a donation in honor of George, checks need to be payable to : ***Foundation Museum Nature de Montreal*** and **specify in the Donation Form for the George LeBolt's Bonsai Collection**. American checks are accepted by the foundation.

The internet address of the foundation is http://www.fondationmuseums.qc.ca/index_en.php

Fondation Muséums nature de Montréal, 4101 Sherbrooke Street East, Montréal (Québec) H1X 2B2

George's presence will be deeply missed by the membership of the Bergen Bonsai Society as his contributions made the club the success that it is today.



GOOD AND WELFARE

Judy is doing fine physically, and is now living with her family in The Arbors at Port Warwick Newport News, Virginia phone: 757-310-6549.

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 (Diane, John & David), 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

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <u>OFFEICES</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 Feitlson |
| Library (Hard Cover Books) | John Ricco |
| 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 |
| Demo. Tree Follow – up | |
| MidAtlantic Representatives | Len Schwartz |
| Programs | Bob Pruski Peter Sobel |
| Newsletter Production | Rose Chan |
| Photographer | Bob Pruski |
| Newsletter Reporter | Mitch Becker |
| Website | Bob Pruski |