



BSLV

Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley

Bonsai Times

P.O. Box 1684, Bethlehem, PA 18016

September, 2024

Message From the President

A bonsai tree teaches us that growth is not always linear. Sometimes it's about finding strength in setbacks and growing in unexpected ways.
—Unknown

Good Day All,

Happy Fall. It was a strange summer, wet at times and very dry at others. We continued watering, fertilizing, trimming and removing wires that cut into the bark.

So what's new and coming up?

Julian Adams will be at the club on Friday the 13th but we aren't superstitious! He can answer many questions regarding pines. Hope to see you there. October is a Bring Your Own Tree workshop and November we will hold a Fall auction. More information to come on both.

So, what are our trees doing now? In early Autumn, growth begins to stabilize and, in the following weeks to come, the tree gets ready for dormancy. Time for the final fertilization of the year. Don't forget to prepare your winter storage areas. The following comes from Bonsai Empire:

During winter dormancy:

1. Broadleaves are inactive during this period. The absence of leaves does not allow photosynthesis, and there is no activity in the organs. The part above ground has no need for either light or fertilizer. Stick only to routine maintenance, to avoid the possibility of infestation by parasites or fungus. The roots, on the other hand, need a certain amount of moisture in the soil to stay alive and not dry out. But take care not to overwater them; otherwise you run the risk of asphyxiating them. *(continued on page 2)*



BSLV President, Bob Ruhe

BSLV Board

President: Bob Ruhe

Vice President: vacancy

Secretary/ Treasurer: Jack Kane

Program/Education: Jim Gillespie

Newsletter: Linda Kondikoff

Director: Don Graham

Director: Jim Heacock

Director: Dennis Schappell

Past President: Greg Krause

We are looking for members to step up and join the board. We have an opening! The club can always use new ideas.



Message From the President *(continued)*

During this period, because of the low temperatures, water evaporates slowly and is not absorbed at all by the leaves. The soil dries so slowly that it is easy to forget to check it. This is a good period for a number of types of work on bonsai.

2. As for the above-ground parts of the plant, this late winter period is a good time for structural pruning, replacement pruning and maintenance pruning.

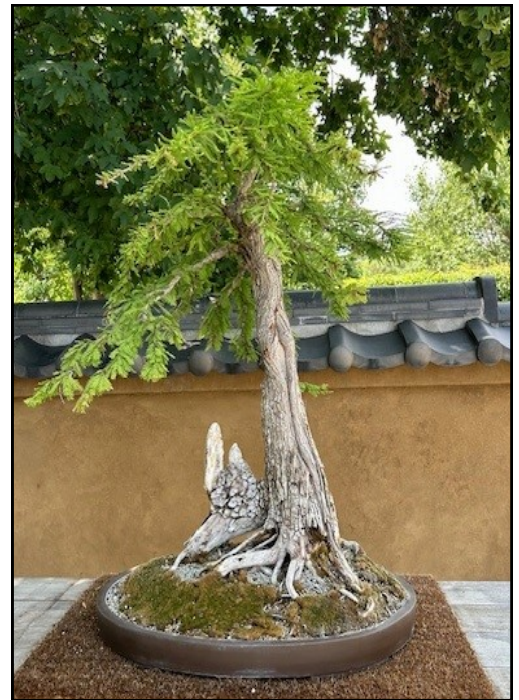
3. Other tasks: Jin and Shari, bending trunks and branches, treating deadwood. On pines, just before maintenance pruning and wire training (if it has not been done already) it is possible to remove the old needles to allow more light to penetrate to activate the dormant buds inside the tree and to sort through the terminal buds at the ends of the branches to leave just two of them.

See y'all soon,

Bob

There are numerous bonsai collections on public display across the United States and Jim and I make a point of tracking them down when we are on vacation. Here are but a few of the impressive trees we saw at the Bonsai Pavilion at the Denver Botanic Gardens. (<https://www.botanicgardens.org/>)

This permanent exhibit is a must-see if you are traveling in that area of Colorado.



BSLV Fall Semester 2024

Currently our club has been meeting at the Lehigh Valley Active Life Center, 1633 West Elm Street, Allentown, PA. BSLV board members felt this location was centrally located to our membership, offers close parking and has rental fees comparable to our past meeting places.



September 13, Lecture by Julian Adams



Julian Adams is going to share some of the information he has learned during his 50 years of working with pines in a 2-part lecture. The first part of the lecture will be devoted to the wonders of pines and why everyone should be using them. The second part will cover the differences between bonsai and pre-bonsai techniques in single and two flush pines. Please visit Julian's website, www.adamsbonsai.com for an in-depth description of his beginnings in the art of bonsai, his bonsai business, vending, his guests appearances and lectures, positions held and his recently published book, "Growing Pines for Bonsai." We are fortunate to have the opportunity to learn from his years of experience and his love of the art of bonsai. Thank you, Jim Gillespie, for arranging for this. Copies of Julian's book will be available for purchase. Cost is \$25.00.

October 17, BYO: Bring a tree to work on. Bring tools and equipment and any questions you might have on repotting, pruning or styling. Our in-house pros will be happy to answer questions and give advice. This would be a good time to bring in any of Michael Fulmer's trees that you may have purchase at the auction and get some comments and suggestions on how to best approach them. If you need any supplies from Sho Fu En Bonsai, please let Jim Gillespie know ahead of time, 610 837-6688.

November 21, Fall Auction: Because there was such a large number of trees from the Michael Fulmer collection up for auction at our annual picnic in June, we thought we would give members another opportunity to put their own trees and other bonsai-related items on the auction block. Though the auction will start at 7:00, please come @ 6:30 so you can register and mark your items. Please prioritize your items with A, B, C, D, E, etc. Please, no landscape plants.

January, BSLV Members' Annual Banquet: Details to be announced.

Some of BSLV's events so far this year...



The ever-popular BSLV picnic was well-attended as usual. Fun was had despite the heat. A fine selection of bonsai trees donated by Michael and Joline Fulmer was auctioned off by our own Jim Gillespie. A sincere thank you to all of you who helped make this a raging success!



On April 18 Bob Mahler, owner of Kifu Bonsai, did an informative lecture/demo for 21 of our members. The topic was azaleas. Brad Kramer was the lucky winner of the raffle of the tree Bob worked on.



At our May meeting Sergio Cuan, owner of M5 Bonsaiworks gave an interesting Powerpoint lecture on deciduous trees, seasonality and techniques. Sergio showed many case studies and answered members' questions.



Please Keep in Mind

We will continue to hold **silent auctions** during all club meetings as an on-going fund-raiser for club activities. Please consider offering up some of your bonsai trees, materials, tools, books or art for these monthly auctions. You keep 75% of the final price, the club gets 25%.

Please check the BSLV website for links to upcoming Bonsai-Related Events (to be posted shortly) <http://www.lvbonsai.org>

Also, be sure to check out Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley on Facebook.

A special thanks to all who help me put together our club's newsletters....the info gatherers, the content providers and especially the proofreaders!



"Experience Art in Nature"

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BSLV DUES



\$40. Individual
\$45. Family

Benefits include:

- Educational Programs & Workshops
- International Speakers
- BSLV Club Newsletters
- American Bonsai Society Monthly Newsletters
- BSLV Website
- 10% Discount on Sho Fu En Merchandise
- Auction/Picnic
- Annual Banquet



SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR FIRST-TIME MEMBERS ARE ONLY \$25.00!