



Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley

Bonsai Times

P.O. Box 1684, Bethlehem, PA 18016

February, 2019

Message From the President

To develop a fine Bonsai collection, make one hundred and keep two or three. - Mr. Toshio Kawamoto

Welcome to new and returning members of BSLV.

As most of you know we are actively searching for a new location to hold our meetings this spring. We have involuntarily ended our association with Bethlehem Vo-Tech and a search committee is currently investigating four possible locations. Thanks to all who suggested sites. We will keep you updated via emails and Facebook.

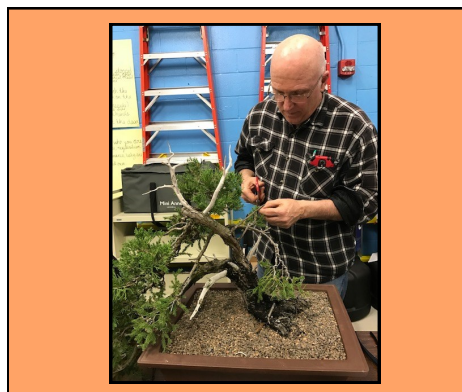
This winter has been a strange one, again. Warm, then severely cold, then warm, mild, then turning colder again! What can we do with our plants? To steal a quote from a former president, "Keep a constant eye on your trees' moisture levels, especially with this mild winter. Desiccation is deadly! If it's frozen—DON'T WATER! If it's unfrozen and dry—WATER!" Sounds simple enough. We can also do some trimming and wiring at this time. But, if you bring a tree inside to do the work, return it to the storage location as soon as you can.

Some activities planned for the club this year may include a bus trip to the National Arboretum in DC. This trip is in the planning stages. We had 18 people sign up as being interested. If there are others, let us know as soon as possible so a proper sized bus can be reserved.

The MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies' Spring Festival is April 12, 13 & 14. It is being held in Grantville, Pa (close to Hershey.) This is close enough to the Lehigh Valley for a day trip on Saturday if you can't attend the whole weekend. See www.midatlanticbonsai.org/registration.htm or ask Jack Kane for a registration form. Early registration is ending soon so act quickly. See you there!

We are planning to display and educate the public at the Allentown Cherry Blossom Festival this year. Your volunteerism is requested as always. When you can pull your trees out of hibernation, prep one or two to display. They don't have to be perfect (Lord knows mine aren't.) They just have to be in a bonsai pot with no weeds. More info later at the meetings.

See y'all soon,
Bob Ruhe



BSLV President, Bob Ruhe

BSLV Board

President: Bob Ruhe
Vice President: Ken Tietjens
Secretary/ Treasurer: Jack Kane
Program/Education: Jim Gillespie
Newsletter: Linda Kondikoff
Director: Rodney Conn
Director: Jim Heacock
Past President: Greg Krause



BSLV Spring Semester 2019

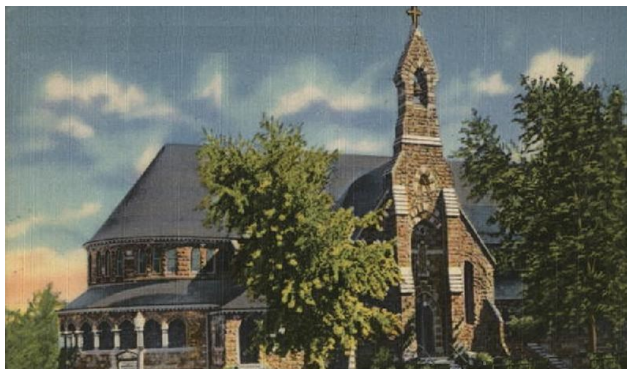
A New Year... A New Location!!!

Our new meeting place is at the **Cathedral Church of the Nativity, 321 Wyandotte St. Bethlehem.** Thank you to all who suggested possible sites and thank you to the BSLV board members who visited and inspected sites. Visit the church's website for more specific directions and parking info:

www.nativitycathedral.org/about/directions/

Because of scheduling conflicts, **our club meetings will now be on the FIRST TUESDAY** of each month. Meeting time is the same, 7:30 pm.

We promise you will be pleased with this new meeting room and all of its accommodations!



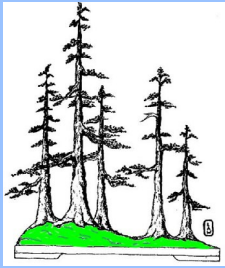
March 5 (1st Tuesday) – 7:30 Sumi-e Painting with Linda Kondikoff

We're having an art lesson! Each member will create an Asian-style black ink painting of bamboo using traditional brushes and techniques. Your painting could end up mounted as a scroll for a tokonoma or simply framed for your own enjoyment. We've made pots and have drawn bonsai trees together in the past....let's try this! All materials will be supplied.

April 2 (1st Tuesday)—7:30 BYO (bring your own) bonsai for refinement. Bring in an existing, styled bonsai tree in a bonsai pot. Get pointers and commentary from our experts. If there is something you might want to purchase from Jim Gillespie please contact him (610 837-6688) prior to the meeting. Display suggestions for the trees will also be discussed. Bring whatever tree you want to work on but consider bringing a tree that you may wish to display at the upcoming MidAtlantic Festival or the Allentown Cherry Blossom Festival, both in April.

April 15 (3rd Monday) 7:00 Joint meeting with PA Bonsai Society Greater Plymouth Community Center, 2910 Jolly Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462. Marc Noelanders from Belgium will give a lecture/demo and the tree will be raffled. More details to follow.

April 12-14 MidAtlantic Bonsai Annual Spring Festival—See page 3. This year the convention will be held in Grantville, a location much closer to the Lehigh Valley! Renowned international professional bonsai artists present lecture/demonstrations, workshops and critiques of bonsai. Also vendors and MABS clubs' bonsai exhibit. Demo trees will be raffled! Registration forms were mailed out but more can be downloaded from the MABS website. *Member attendance benefits our club by increasing the share for the cost of the speakers!*



MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival 2019

April 12-14

Holiday Inn in Harrisburg/Hershey/Grantville, PA 17028

(Exit 80, I-81)

This is the MUCH CLOSER location we've enjoyed in the past!

Featuring:

TAIGA URUSHIBATA (Japan)

MARC NOELANDERS (Europe)

JENNIFER PRICE (USA)

ALSO: Lecture/Demos/Vendors/Exhibits/Critiques/
Workshops and, of course, the Banquet/Auction!

For more info visit: www.midatlanticbonsai.org/index.htm
To download a registration PDF or to register on line, please visit:
www.midatlanticbonsai.org/registration.htm

Please remember to mark club affiliation as BSLV so we get credit!

BSLV Spring Semester 2019 *continued*

April 27 Annual Allentown Cherry Blossom Festival BSLV will have a display at this event featuring member trees. Each member is invited to display a tree in this event. Set-up and tree-sitting schedules will be forthcoming. Please pre-submit your tree information (common name, age, years in training, style to Jim Gillispie 610 837-6688 or jagill@verizon.net. We have to prepare labels *before* the show. *We are not able to accept trees the day of the show.*



Exhibitors, Parasol painting, Mock Turtle Marionette Theater, Great food, music & more!
Dharma Talks, Mandala art, Martial arts demonstrations, Lawn games, Puppet making,
Mekar Sari Gamelan Ensemble, Origami, Children's arts & crafts, Bonsai demonstrations

Special Event Feature 10:00 a.m.—Kick-off to celebrate, World Tai Chi & Qigong Day
Friends of the Allentown Parks www.allentownparks.org 610-432-7275 info@allentownparks.org

May Date to be announced-- Possible Kusamono lecture/demo with Young Choe...still in the planning stages. The first part of the meeting will be an educational lecture/demo on kusamono and the second part will be a workshop on grass plantings. You may pay a materials fee to participate in the workshop or you may stick around to observe and learn for free! Visit kusamonochoe.com for more info on Young Choe and this art form.

June 15 BSLV Annual Picnic/Auction At the Kondikoff Farm. Details to be announced later.



Planting by Young Choe

Bonsai Literature and Art

Love Grows Like a Bonsai

by Jean Lee Pwu

The small orange bonsai
By the kitchen window
Growing in white winter
Is small and fragrant laden
With tiny blossoms
And emerald jewels
Of fruit on the boughs

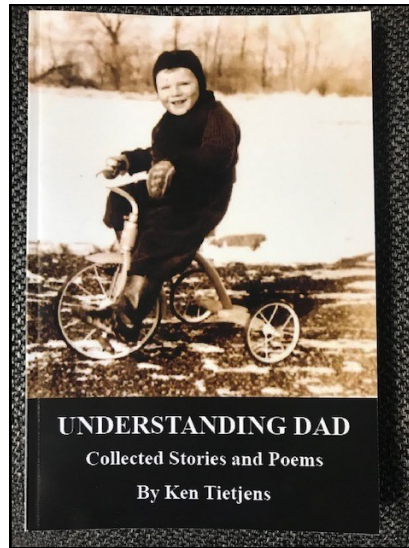
So delicate but strong
So young but old
Apart from the glistening
Snow on the porch
The bonsai grows lush
As the white pool higher
Posing daintily like a dancer

Love grows slowly
Tenderly in my heart
Like the bonsai bathing
In quiet attention of Sun
But bold understanding
Of watering with prudence
And whistling of music.

Whispering in sweet tones
We share aging together
To sculpt Time and Beauty
Together like embroidery
No need to speed up!
Tiny vigorous mini tree
Blooms from its virile roots

So elegant but persistent
The bonsai blinks
On Spring Equinox
Love winks
On Winter Solstice
We are in no hurry
Love needs no hurry

Time is on our side!
We love and age
Half inch per score moons
With tiny blossoms
And elegant fruit
In sunrises in sunsets
We love into a new century.



BSLV member, Ken Tietjens recently wrote and published a book entitled "Understanding Dad" in which he described events that shaped his life via narratives and poetry. Of course Ken devotes a section to bonsai! He describes how the balance of nature is reflected in the relationship that is established between a bonsai artist and his trees.

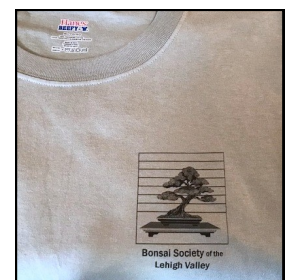


Jim Doyle designed a stunning windswept Ponderosa Pine during a lecture/demo at our November meeting. Linda Kondikoff was the lucky winner of the raffle!!!



Member Joe Sauer continues to make his award-winning stained glass windows incorporating bonsai themes.

Reminder– Another t-shirt order will be placed in the next few weeks so please consider buying one. Sizes range from Men's S-3XL. Contact Linda Kondikoff at kondikoff2@ptd.net or 610-746-2595 to order. BSLV is subsidizing some of the cost so this is a great opportunity to get a good quality Hane's Beefy T for only \$15.00! Show the world your BSLV pride!



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.bonsaisocietylehighvalley.org>

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



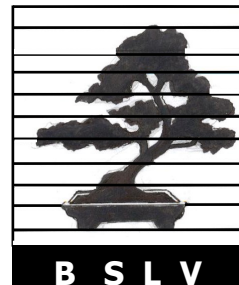
"Experience Art in Nature"

Jim Gillespie
3183 Pine Rd.
Danielsville, PA 18038

(610) 837-6688
jagill@verizon.net

BSLV DUES

\$40.00/ individual
\$45.00/ family
(still a bargain!)



Benefits include:

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