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*One of the most
important tools
of bonsai is
patience.*

First Quarter 2024 Events

January

PBS Monthly Meeting

Date: January 13, 2024

Time: 10:45 am

Location: Free Library of Springfield Township, Montgomery County, PA

Topic: Kevin Bielicki on Longwood Gardens' bonsai collection

YouTube Video Discussion Group

Date: January 22, 2024

Time: 7:00-8:00 pm

Location: Zoom (Link to follow in separate email)

Topic: Winter Pruning bonsai by Harry Harrington (Bonsai Empire)

February

PBS Monthly Meeting

Date: February 10, 2024

Time: 10:30* am

Location: Free Library of Springfield Township, Montgomery County, PA

Topic: Group discussion on what makes a bonsai great

**Room opens at 10am. Come early for socializing! Meeting starts promptly at 10:30.*

YouTube Video Discussion Group

Date: February 19, 2024

Time: 7:00-8:00 pm

Location: Zoom (Link to follow in a separate email)

Topic: Bonsai soil basics (Eastern Leaf)

March

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Flower Show

PBS Bonsai Exhibit

Date: March 2 – March 10, 2024

Location: Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA



Stop by and see some club
members' exhibition trees!

YouTube Video Discussion Group

Date: March 18, 2024

Time: 7:00-8:00 pm

Location: Zoom (Link to follow in a separate email)

Topic: Cleaning bonsai preparing for styling (Bonsai Mirai)

Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival



MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies
39th Annual
Spring Bonsai Festival
April 19-21, 2024
Holiday Inn Harrisburg (Hershey Area) I-81, PA

Featuring Artists:

 Rafa Torres Palma de Mallorca, Spain	 Boon Manakitivipart Sacramento, CA, USA	 Sergio Cuan New Jersey, USA
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Exhibition - Raffles - Demonstrations - Workshops - Auctions - Vendors
www.midatlanticbonsai.org [@midatlanticbonsai](https://www.facebook.com/midatlanticbonsai)

Guest Artist Workshops:

- Boon Manakitivipart: "American Larch Workshop"
- Sergio Cuan: "Dwarf Kashima Japanese Maple Workshop"
- Rafael Torres: "European Olive Workshop"

For more information:

<http://midatlanticbonsai.org/spring%20festival.htm>



Registration is
open!

Don't forget to name PBS as your home society! The club receives funding based on member attendance.

Upcoming Bonsai Workshop

What: "Introduction to Bonsai Using Native Trees"
When: April 13, 2024
Time: 10am-1pm
Cost: \$85
Location: Mt. Cuba Center (3120 Barley Mill Road, Hockessin, DE 19707)
Instructor: Brian Tuel
For more information and to register:
<https://mtcubacenter.org/event/introduction-to-bonsai-using-native-trees/>

Be sure to keep an eye out for additional workshops offered by Brian at Mt. Cuba Center!

BUDDIES NEED YOU!



Can you

help?

PBS is growing rapidly and quickly becoming the go-to club in Eastern PA. Many of the new members are looking for a Bonsai Buddy but **we need your help.**

Being a buddy can be so rewarding and passing on your knowledge to someone eager to learn is a great way to give back!

A buddy is someone who can answer questions and be there when a new member wants to learn. Interested? Reply to this email and let us know you can be a buddy

Contact info@pabonsai.org for more information!



Artist: Mark Arpag
Root over Rock
October 2023

Volunteers Requested!



PBS is looking for members to sit with the bonsai exhibition at the 2024 Philadelphia Flower Show to greet the public and answer questions! This is a great opportunity to interact with the public and share our love of bonsai. Volunteers also receive two free tickets to the flower show.

When: March 2 – March 10, 2024

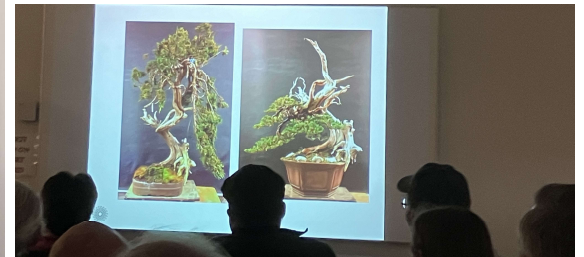
Where: Pennsylvania Convention Center in Center City, Philadelphia

Time slots: 10:00am-1:15pm; 1:15pm-4:30pm; 4:30pm-8:00pm

To sign up, contact Karin Simmat at ksimmat@verizon.net, and use "Flower Show Volunteer" in the subject line of the email, or sign up at the February PBS meeting on February 10.

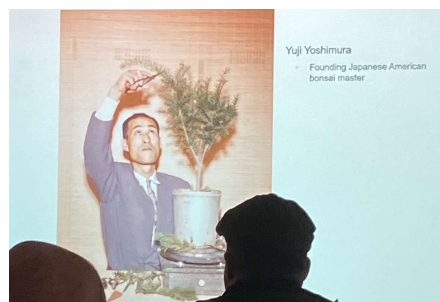
Note: Anyone exhibiting a bonsai at the show is asked to sit for two sessions.

January 2024 PBS Meeting



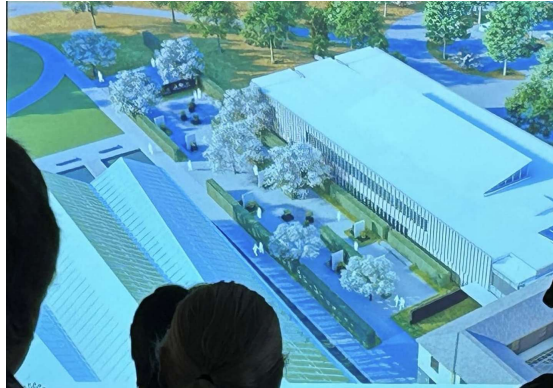
We welcomed Kevin Bielicki to our monthly PBS meeting in January. Mr. Bielicki is currently the curator of the bonsai collection at Longwood Gardens. He started his career in bonsai at the Kennett Collection, a private collection of bonsai trees. He had no formal apprenticeship, but worked his way up from landscaping to working on the collection, learning from many bonsai masters invited to work on the Kennett Collection.

Mr. Bielicki shared some of the history of bonsai at Longwood. The collection began in 1959 with the donation of 13 trees from Yuji Yoshimura. Of those, 4 still remain in the collection.



Until 1975, bonsai trees were displayed in popup locations around Longwood, and in 1975, the collection was given its permanent home in the East Conservatory passageway where it resided until late last year.

The vision for the bonsai collection as part of Longwood Reimagined involves moving the bonsai collection from its current location to its own courtyard. The courtyard will contain hedges and seating for an improved visitor experience. The space will have the capacity to house 40-60 trees, and there are plans to rotate the collection several times a year. The new collection will include 50 specimens donated by the Kennett Collection.



Looking to the future, the bonsai exhibit will reopen later this year in the Oct-Nov timeframe. In 2026, we can look forward to an azalea bonsai exhibit. Patience is definitely key in this hobby!

From the Editor's Desk



Happy New Year! It is with great pleasure and gratitude that I take over the newsletter editor position from Jim Brant. I'm a new member to PBS and bonsai in general, having joined in September 2023 and made my first bonsai in the Ezo Spruce October workshop. I look forward to getting to know everyone as I grow into this role and become more involved.

A little about me: I'm from New York (the state, not the city!) and grew up in the Hudson Valley. I come to PA by way of Iowa, having attended a few semesters of grad school at ISU. I've been in the area a little over two years now. I'm a scientist by day and jack-of-all-trades by night. My hobbies include sewing, cross-stitching, painting, reading, playing harp, house plants and terrariums, and now bonsai! Please feel free to reach out with any questions or upcoming events you're aware of. I'll be on the lookout for exciting things to share with you all via this newsletter, but more eyes are always better! -Mary Schappert

The editor is seeking photos and descriptions of trees entered by PBS members in the Philadelphia Flower Show for feature in the 2Q2024 Newsletter. Please email maryschappert@gmail.com.