

The Pennsylvania Bonsai Society

Newsletter

August 2023

Founded 1963



PBS

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*The puppy asleep.
Pushing his feet
Against the willow-tree.
Issa*

August Picnic & Auction

It's time for the annual PBS picnic and auction. This is a great opportunity to relax and chat about bonsai, have some great food, and participate in a spirited auction in a beautiful setting.

Traditionally, Summer auctions have been conducted on a purely donation basis. While we still **strongly** encourage donations, for the past few years, members have the option of receiving their share of an 80/20 split - 80% to the seller,

PBS will provide hoagies along with soft drinks and water for the picnic*****. Members are requested to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Once everyone has eaten their fill, our auction will be held. Items will be sold to the highest bidder at *no reserve*. Finished bonsai, prebonsai, nursery stock, pots, tools, books, magazines, or any other bonsai related items are requested from members to help make our 2023-24 programs a success. Bidders are needed, too, so bring your checkbook or cash. The rule of the day is to take home more than you brought!!

In order to control the length of the auction, sellers are limited to three items (grouped items count as one, and will be sold as one. ex. 3 pots grouped will be sold as one lot.)

Please join us and share a great day. We're at the same location as last time for our picnic & auction. There is excellent parking as well as nearby rest rooms.

PBS Picnic & Auction

Date: Saturday, August 12 (Rain or Shine)

Location: Upper Providence Park Pavilion (*directions on last page*)

10:00 - 11:00 -Arrival, check in auction items, social time

Picnic - 11:30

Auction - 1:00

Be sure your dues are current! Renew online before the auction & save time!

*****Please contact Linda Brant if you plan to attend, so we have an accurate head count for picnic supplies and food.

Email: lbrant@comcast.net



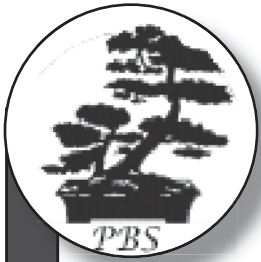
June Meeting

Apparently, there is a great deal of interest in Shohin bonsai, judging from the excellent turnout for our June meeting. Each person had the opportunity to describe the history of their tree, then have Bob Mahler comment on the tree and make suggestions for the future refinement of the tree.

Following lunch, members had the opportunity to work on trees.

All in all, a great day, lots of information, along with some new ideas about shohin.





June Meeting



Seasonal Notes

When to Fertilize? This is the subject of some controversy. The conventional wisdom is to fertilize when the plants are in active growth. This generally is after bud break in the spring until late summer. The contention is that feeding well into the fall and early winter with nitrogen will force new growth that will be killed by frost. It now appears that this is a myth.

Plants begin setting buds in mid to late summer. Nitrogen does fuel new growth, but plays no role in initiating bud break. This is related to day length only. Cold hardiness acquisition is related to lowered temperatures and can actually be enhanced by regular fertilization with balanced levels of nitrogen. Based on these findings there is no reason not to continue balanced fertilizer feeding well into the fall and early winter. As long as the soil temperature is above about 55°F plants will continue to absorb and store nitrogen as well as phosphorus and potassium. This storage of fertilizer by the plant plays a very important role in fueling new growth in the early spring when soil temperatures are cold and nitrogen is hard to acquire.

Deciduous trees and conifers have different needs, so some investigation into specific needs is necessary. Timing is very important for certain pines and azaleas as well. The best results are obtained by learning the specific needs of each variety of your bonsai.



Final Dues Reminder

Your 22/23 membership was valid until the end of May. Please send your dues check to our treasurer, **Jim Troyer**, as soon as possible, or rejoin at the picnic . Dues are now at \$45.00 (to cover expenses related to online sign-up and future online sale items) .

Clip the attached form, fill out, and return - check payable to

PBS.

The mailing address is:

The Pennsylvania Bonsai Society
Box 852

OR - A Better Way

Go to the **PBS Website** - <http://pabonsai.org> - click on the **ONLINE MEMBER RENEWAL** and pay dues online. It's painless!!

***Please note. If you joined PBS after the flower show, your dues are good for the 23/24 membership year.

Questions? Contact us at info@pabonsai.org

Your membership must be current to participate in the August Auction.

Future Meetings

- September 16 - Hugo Zamora - Demo & Workshop
- October 14 - Marc Arpeg - Demo & Workshop
- Novemehr 11 - David Easterbrook - Demo & Workshop

Directions to the PBS Picnic

The pavilion is located at the Upper Providence Township Park located at 1286 Black Rock Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460.

From 422 take the Collegeville exit (rt 29) go south on 29 for about a quarter mile, then turn right on Black Rock Road. The Township center is on the right. Enter and follow signs to the Pavilion. A photo map of the park is attached.

Celebrating 60 years!

Thanks to all of you for your ongoing support of PBS. You have welcomed and encouraged new members, been willing to share your knowledge and offer a helping hand. Let's keep doing great things!

Dues Form - 2023-2024 - Annual Membership.....June 1 to May 31.....\$45.00

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone** _____

Email _____

PLEASE PRINT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS CLEARLY -NEWSLETTERS ARE SENT VIA EMAIL

**Your cell phone number will be used only in the event of a cancellation if you cannot be reached at your home number.