Bonsai Society of Greater Hartford

Volume 2007 Issue 6 **June 2007 Newsletter**

All regular meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Pond House at Elizabeth Park in West Hartford from 7:00PM -9:30PM.

May — What a busy month

David Benavente — Thanks to Geof for working with Yama Ki to give us an opportunity to have David visit us from Spain. Some of us spent a wonderful afternoon working on trees with David. It was interesting as Dave sat down before working on a tree and sketched out his concept, then we dove in to cut, clip, wire and shape.

David had his work cut out for him at the evening demo/meeting with an old juniper dug from Josie's yard years ago. It was a challenge with all the crossing twisted branches. With lot trimming and wiring to get things back into an orderly fashion it was well on its way. Although he ran out of time I am sure Vreni who won the tree in the raffle will really enjoying finishing.

Winterberry Garden — We had about 12 members showed up for this open house type event and had a lot of time to work on trees, talk with the public and promote Bonsai and our up coming show. We were also able to purchase some very good nursery stock that should turn up at some future bonsai events. All in all it was a very good day and the people at Winterberry were happy with our set up and have invited us aback at a future time.

May Meeting — Todd share some of his talent and wisdom in procedures to improve a bonsai for exhibition. He talked of cleaning the pots, soil preparation , adding moss and the use of stands and accent plants. Following Todd's talk a lot of members had brought in trees to work on with guidance from the senior members as well as working the trees for the upcoming exhibition.

Annual Exhibit — Our annual exhibit was held on Memorial Day weekend at the Pond House in Elizabeth Park. Wonderful weather brought out a lot of people to the park and we drew about 400 people to few the exhibit. There were about 100 trees on display and a lot of nice trees displayed in the pre bonsai area that I am sure will be exhibited in the next year or so. A beautiful little azalea in full bloom help make our raffle a success. The lectures were very well attended and there were quite a few who took part on the "Build a Bonsai" workshops held outside with Todd & Geof. The sales area was a very lively area this year with a lot of quality pre bonsai material for sale. Five new members joined the club over the weekend and another 15 signed up for our beginners meeting on July 16.

July Happenings

July 14th—Road trip to Bonsai Nurseries

On Saturday the 14th we have a good day planned visiting New England Bonsai http://www.nebonsai.com in Bellingham, Ma. and Bonsai West http://www.bonsaiwest.com in Littleton, Ma. We are very fortunate to have these great Bonsai nurseries so close by. Both have excellent trees, plants, pots, wire, tools and just about anything one needs for bonsai. This time of year both places have very good sales on most items. They also have some very fine bonsai trees on display.

This is a great opportunity for new members to acquire needed bonsai supplies and walk around with some of the members with more experience to help answer questions and point you in the right direction.

The plan is to meet in East Hartford at Todd;s @ 8:30am on Saturday, July 14th and we will car pool from there or you can take your own vehicle if you prefer. At the present time we have about 8 members signed up to go.

Please contact Geof at gdholmes86@msn.com (413-229-8874) or Frank at brooks.frank@comcast.net

(860-747-5951) to sign up and get more info and directions to Todd's

July 16th — New Members Meeting

This will be our regular schedule meeting on the 3rd Monday and will meet at the Pond House @ Elizabeth Park at 7PM

The program for the evening will be geared to helping new members get some assistance in starting in Bonsai. It will be a Bring Your Own Tree or there will be some pre-bonsai available to purchase and Al will have a selection of tools and wire for sale. Everyone is encouraged to bring a tree to work on to give the new members a look of bonsai in progress and hopefully be a good learning night for all

Calendar of Club Events for 2007

- May 8 - Special Event - Lecture/Demo with Guest Artist David Benavente 7:00pm
  Afternoon Workshop with David—BYOT 1PM—5PM
  Both events at Todd's House
- May 12 — Open House BYOT and Lecture/Demo at Winterberry Gardens 9:30am — 4:00pm
- May 21 — Club Meeting at Pond House, 7— 9:30
  Bring **Y**our **O**wn **T**ree and wire & tools—Prep for show
- May 26 & 27 - Greater Hartford Annual Bonsai Exhibition & Show
- June 5 - Board Meeting 7:00PM Dave & Vreni's
- June 9 — Annual Club Picnic Food, Demo, Raffles and Auction — Todd's House
  9:30am—12:30pm Morning workshop with Michael Persiano—Kingsville Boxwood or BYOT
  12:00pm-1:00pm — Social Hour
  1:00pm — 2:00pm Lunch
  2:00pm — Demo Followed by auction
- June 23 China Trade Bonsai Society Bonsai and Asian Arts Festival
- http://www.chinatradebonsaisociety.org/annualshow.htm
- June 21-24 American Bonsai Society Learning Seminar http://www.absbonsai.org
- **July 10 — Board Meeting 7PM @ Bob's House**
- **July 14 — Club trip to NE Bonsai & Bonsai West More info to folow**
- **July 16 — New Members Meeting**
- **BYOT—Trees will be available to purchase**
- August —- No Board Meeting or Regular Monthly Meeting
- **August 18th Open House Workshop & Get together @ Diana"s -More info to follow**
- Sept 4 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- Sept 15-16 Tower Hill Bonsai Societies Exhibition
- Sept 17 — Club Meeting at Pond House, 7— 9:30 BYOT Workshop
- **Sept 29th Open House Workshop & Get together @ Dave & Vreni's -More info to follow**
- Oct 2 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- Oct 15 — Club Meeting at Pond House, 7— 9:30 Marco Invernizzi
- Nov 6 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- Nov 19 — Club Meeting at Pond House, 7— 9:30 Program TBD
- Dec 4 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- Dec 16 — Annual Christmas Party

Book Review

Bonsai in Italian!

A recent donation to our club library deserves your attention. While I don't pretend to speak Italian, I was intrigued by the super bonsai, viewing stones and displays in "Migliori Bonsai e Suiseki 2004." This collection of full color photos on black backgrounds present trees from the 2004 European Bonsai Association Exhibition.

The yews, pines, olives, rosemarys, and junipers are trees to study and remember as we style our own creations. I was particularly impressed with the use of Pinus Mugo…trees easily available here in the states. We have two copies of this wonderful book in our Library. Check one out and see if you agree with me. Diana

Thank You Notes From Diana

The 2007 exhibition is now history. I would like to take a moment to highlight some of the individuals who gave so much to make this show a success.

My thanks to the following:

Geoff Holmes and *Bob Neems*, show chairs, who pulled the show (and us) together.

Todd Hansen gave us a slice of his wisdom to prepare our trees for the exhibition. Even the senior members picked up new tips.

Todd and Geoff also ran well attended "Build a Bonsai" workshops, a new feature this year.

Dave Bressem made sure that we had our admission money even though he couldn't participate in this show.

To *Vreni and David Caudle* …typing and coming up with a last minute art show…we couldn't do it without you!

All of the members who were willing to stand up and demonstrate our art to perfect strangers. Because of you the club fulfilled its educational promise.

Thank you admissions people. It is not easy to gently ask for admission money.

To the growers in the club: we had excellent trees for sale! *Jan and Sully* did a fine job of making our little bonsai shop run smoothly.

And finally…to all of you who exhibited trees. Job well done!

If I forgot someone…forgive me. You all made me proud to be part of Bonsai Society of Greater Hartford. I hope you feel the same way.

Diana