



SNIPPETS

Brookside Bonsai Society

April 2013

Are you Ready for Roy April 25?



Once again renowned bonsai artist Roy Nagatoshi returns to Brookside from California. And once again, several regional clubs have joined together to get him here. For those who haven't had the opportunity yet to get to know Nagatoshi, he is from a family of nurserymen and is an internationally recognized bonsai artist.

Roy is coming just in time to help club members ready bonsai for display at the annual Potomac Bonsai Association Festival held at the National

Arboretum May 3-5 this year. Over the years, he has quickly assessed members' trees and assisted them in making dramatic improvements that ensure proper health, as well as improved aesthetics. Of course, this is one of those not-to-miss meetings of the year when one can easily obtain the highest level of advice from a leader in the American bonsai community. He will give suggestions for horticultural care, design, and maintenance of your trees.

Why he enjoys spending some time on interesting material, he has an amazing knack for making time for each tree and member who wishes to benefit from his eye and expertise. BBS President Dave Lord hopes all members will take advantage of this opportunity and those who have not exhibited something from their collection before may be able to do so this year. Bring your bag of tools and a little wire so Roy and you can implement his suggestions. This will be a fun night for all to learn. Doors will open at 7:00 so we can set up the room and bring in material. Program starts at 7:30.



A Little Review on Roy (from his website)

Born in the United States, Roy spent his early years in Japan - through junior high school, returning to the States in 1957.- His first encounter with bonsai was in 1959, working side-by-side with his father, Shigeru, learning the techniques of making bonsai. He watched his father work with many different kinds of trees, pruning, wiring, shaping and potting. When Roy was homesick, bonsai reminded me of the trees in the mountains, hills and shorelines of Japan. It's little wonder

Roy thoroughly fell in love with bonsai.

My education in bonsai also included attending classes under John Naka. In 1965, with the encouragement of Mr. Iura, my fathers' bonsai master, my parents opened the Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar, California, where my father and I conduct bonsai classes. In 1975, I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Ornamental Horticulture from the

Cal Poly University in Pomona, California. Also in 1975, I received my State Landscape Contractors' License, and started a landscape contracting business.

In 1976, Roy gave his first lecture/demonstration to a local bonsai club. Since then, he has toured and conducted workshops and lecture/demonstrations in numerous states in the continental United States. Events in which he has been featured include the following: California Bonsai Society Anniversary Conventions, Golden State Bonsai Federation Conventions, Potomac Bonsai Federation Conventions, Pacific Northwest Bonsai Federation Conventions, Texas, Lone Star Bonsai Federation Lecture Tour and Annual Convention, Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Festivals, ABS Convention, IBC Convention, Florida Bonsai Societies Convention, Brussell Nursery Spring Rendezvous, and the International Bonsai Arboretum, Bonsai Symposium. International Tours include: South Africa, 1991, 1993 IBC '95, Australia, 1995 Toronto, Canada, 1993 Latin America Bonsai Conference, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1996, Victoria, B.C., Canada, 1993 and Mexico City, Mexico, 1998.



Roy has taught beginner and advanced bonsai for four years at the Community College in Santa Barbara, Ca.

In 1990, he created bonsai for *The Karate Kid III*, in 1990, and was also involved in a bonsai educational video professionally produced by Puget Sound Bonsai Association, with funding provided by Weyerhaeuser

Company of Tacoma, Washington.

He is the President of the California Bonsai Society, and was Chairman of the 40th Anniversary Convention, held in the Spring of 1997. He has attended numerous bonsai conventions, including the first World Bonsai Federation Convention, in April, 1989, in Omiya, Japan.

Please make every effort to attend and benefit from this special evening! Your bonsai will thank you.



You're Invited:

RBS Annual Picnic and Auction May 19 3- 5 p.m.

Richmond Bonsai Society invites all PBA members to their annual our picnic and auction. The event typically draws about 40 RBS members, but the group hopes to increase the fun with others in the PBA family. RBS request and RSVP from non-RBS members if at all possible to richmondbonsaisociety@yahoo.com so that a good estimate of attendance can be made.

RBS will supply BBQ sandwiches, ice, drinks, paper goods, and utensils. All attendees should bring a salad, chips, side dish, or a dessert to share with members. Don't forget serving utensils. The picnic and auction will be held at Joseph Bryan Park. The park entrance is on Hermitage Road, which is just north of the I-95 interchange. Watch for RBS signs marking the path to the #1 shelter.

Trees and other auction items should arrive from 2-3:00, we'll eat at 3:00, and the auction will begin about 3:30. **You must be a PAID RBS or PBA member to sell or bid on items at the auction.** A minimum 20% from each sale is donated automatically to the club. Typically, members bring 3-5 items to sell. If you have more than that, they should be grouped into lots.



Editor's Note: In addition to this excellent opportunity to enjoy fellowship with another thriving bonsai society (I've quickly become friends with its Secretary, Thomas Sones, who came to D.C. for a WBC meeting led by BBS's Ed Zipeto, and told me well in advance of a nursery visit...), a picnic, and an auction, I highly recommend it for still another reason: the opportunity to obtain inexpensive, outstanding outdoor bonsai material from Gardener's Nursery in Richmond (find them on Facebook!). The place and the prices really have to be seen to be believed.

What I can personally report is that I went there on March 23, filled my Prius with well-weathered material, and came home happier than a flock of birds flying through a bonsai tree—after having traveled to Ski Liberty and back to Annapolis the previous Thursday (I went down on Friday). PBA President Steven Miller was there, filled his pickup truck with large trunk junipers (larger than the ones you see picture below) for this year's PBA New Talent competition, and returned that Monday to lead a RBS event focusing on carving.



Two weeks later, I was back again. I learned of the cancer-related death a very good family friend from my youth, and my parents and I went down. Numerous more trees acquired. I'm fortunate to have an uncle that lives in Midlothian, which made the March 23 event much easier with a stay over the previous morning and that evening, but a day trip for this afternoon event is well within reach of any members of our club, and I most highly recommend it. Very good bonsai material and almost unbelievable prices will make a great bonsai artist out of anyone. I should know. ;----)

Lastly, families would enjoy a sojourn to Marymont Park (www.maymont.org) to enjoy its gardens, including Japanese and Italian gardens and small zoo (black bear, grey fox, bald eagles, livestock). I spent an hour or so on Sunday before returning to Maryland.



BBS Schedule...

January 2012	February 2012	March 2012
NO MEETING	9—7:30 p.m. New 2 nd Thursday meeting. Prepare for spring. Bring choice of tree for discussion. 12 & 14-8:45 a.m. Annapolis area Collecting Trip	8-7:30 p.m. Juniper Workshop, Part 1 Bring \$25 cash or check for Pierre Ruffieux for one of 13 nursery trees available to work on. Or watch and comment as others work. Bring tools, gloves, and turntable.
April 2012	May 2012	June 2012
ROY RETURNS 26—7:30 p.m. (4 th Thursday)—International master Roy Nagatoshi returns to critique your bonsai. Be scared. Be very, very scared. (Just kidding! He's humourous and helpful while he makes handsome bonsai.) Don't miss this!!!	10-7:30 p.m. Juniper Workshop, Part 2 "Finish" juniper bonsai started in March. Bring tools, gloves, and turntable. <i>Those that didn't buy trees in March may bring other appropriate material to work on.</i> 12- World Bonsai Day at Arboretum (see its website for details). 26-9:00 a.m. Annual PBA Auction and PBA Annual Meeting; Putting on the Glitz Azaleas starts at Arboretum	3-last day for Azalea Bonsai at Arboretum 14-TBD Brookside meeting 24-Editor's Birthday ;--)
July 2012	August 2012	September 2012
12-Club Meeting TBD	CLUB PICNIC, TBD	13-7:30 p.m. Critiquing trees or other subject TBD. Anybody interested in small water gardens? Yenchin of Baltimore Bonsai who sells pots under the name Osiga, might be willing to visit and talk about his simple lilly gardens.
October 2012	November 2012	December 2012
11—7:30 p.m. Annual Brookside Auction	8—7:30 p.m. Glenn Reusch shares his passion for Suiseki	HOLIDAY DINNER, TBD

Club Business...

The PBA Auction...May 26

From Edward Zipeto: Spring has brought a new vigor to bonsaists everywhere. What better way to share the spirit than to bring some material that others may find useful? This is a great time to do some spring cleaning and maybe to pick up some new ideas or products for future use Anyone can buy by getting a bidder card and any PBA member can list items for sale. See Ed upon entry for "item lists" and corresponding numbered item cards.

There are usually pre-bonsai material, somewhat finished products, wire, books, tools, pots and much camaraderie to be had. Please consider volunteering as runners (bringing items to the auctioneer and to the "sold" area), recorders (during the event) and carriers (for those of us who are "fire escape challenged") after the auction.

Please bring checks (make them out to PBA) or cash, as we are not set up for credit card purchases. Parking and setup are from 8 to 9AM; registering item lists with cards as well as bidder card registration is from 9 to 10AM; with the auction from 10 to Noon. Many thanks to all who have made this fund raiser for the PBA such a success each year.

The PBA Annual Meeting will follow immediately after the auction.

Getting to the meetings is EASY!

Our current meeting place is in Meadowbrook Park in Chevy Chase. The address is 7901 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. At the intersection of Connecticut Ave. and East West Highway (410), go east on Highway 410 (East West Highway) about .9 mile and cross over Rock Creek Park. Take an immediate right on Meadowbrook Lane after crossing over Rock Creek Park and go to the community center.

BBS Officers and Directors

Feel free to contact the officers and directors to discuss your concerns or share your ideas.

Program Coordinators: Karl Steinkraus (301)-330-2050, Stephen Mefford (202)-460-1352,

Stephen.mefford@gmail.com, and Pierre Ruffieux (301)-340-8064, jprdf@verizon.net

Treasurer: Julie Pascu, (301) 530-5258 Juliepascu@starpower.net

Newsletter: Kevin Kohler, (410) 925-6905, brooksidebonsainews@gmail.com

Librarian: Earl Pfeiffer, (301) 869-2871.

Only a few of the BBS books and magazines are brought to each meeting. Call Earl if you would like to review a particular book.

Fresh Websites to Check Out

www.phoenixbonsai.com/Nagatoshi.html: Roy's club.

www.bestbonsaivideos.com –Now is a great time to check out these well-focused videos that will have you honing your skills and proficient in new species in short order.

<http://www.amleo.com/ars-cleaner/p/AC38/> Tool cleaner made in Japan that Peter Jones recommends.

Bonsai4me.com—Pierre Ruffieux recommends this large UK site that has species guides, beginner and advanced techniques, articles, a gallery, and more.

Capitalbonsai.wordpress.com—U.S. Arboretum Bonsai and Penjing Museum Assistant Curator Aaron Packard's new blog is terrific. Pictures of Roy's nursery in his most recent entry are a must see.

www.learn2grow.com: characteristics, growing conditions, ornamental features, and special characteristics on Rhododendron 'Ben Morrison' and all the other species you're interested in. More detailed than RD Home Handbooks Bonsai guide, which I use as my species bible.