

# Bonsai Times

Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley

B S L V

Volume 1

Issue 4

December,

*“Again, I wish to emphasize that bonsai is not a mere sketch of nature but a reflection of the heart of the creator.”*

*Kyuzo Murata*



## Lecture/Demo by David Kreutz

David Kreutz of Satsuki Bonsai En in St. Louis gave an enthusiastic explanation of the specialized care and training of satsuki azalea. **Jim Brant** was the winner of Kreutz’s outstanding demo tree. Hope you took good notes, Jim!



## Message from the President

As I reflect back on this year’s activities, I can’t help but sense a rebirth of enthusiasm within our membership. Bonsai clubs, like bonsai, must grow if they are to flourish. The barometers of growth are on track. Membership and our treasury are both on the plus side of the ledger. But it takes more.

Just as a tree needs to spring new growth, a club needs members to step up to that which breed success. With this in mind, I’d like to give special recognition to those who did just that: In the area of *communication*; is there anyone who doesn’t take pride in our newsletter? Thank you, **Linda**. Also, a special thanks to **Bill Castellon** for his behind-the-

*(continued on page 2)*



*Exteme Bonsai -David Kreutz points out growth patterns on a tree with a dramatic “first branch.”*



In a follow-up workshop held on October 10, **Roger Krauss, Steve Humma, Gregory Krause, Don Graham and Patrick Sullivan** got a more in-depth, personalized session with Kreutz, along with fine specimen satsuki.

## Members Trade Advice and Opinions at September's BYOT (Bring Your Own Tree)



*Thomas Bender and Joe Sauer  
inspect branch movement.*



*Father and son Glenn and Tim Kratzer  
team up to refine a juniper.*



*Luis Hernandez makes some thoughtful  
suggestions to Steve Humma.*

### *President's Message*

*(continued)*

scenes work with the Morning Call.

Thanks to the *organizational* work done by the **Board of Directors**—so few willing to give so much time.

A personal thank you to those of you who par-

*ticipated* by showing trees at Tilley's on very short notice.

*Service*- is there anyone who denies that his love for bonsai is the driving force behind **Jim Gillespie**?

Here's wishing you a sense of *wabi* and *sabi*.

**Roger Krauss, President**

## The Art of Keido



Tom Bender's American Hornbeam.



Joe Sauer's Chinese Quince.



Larch forest with small fisherman to provide scale.  
(Steve Humma)

**Linda and Jim Brant**, BSLV members for 15 years, gave a slide presentation on bonsai display, or *Keido*. In Japanese homes bonsai trees are often displayed in an alcove called a *tokonoma* to honor a guest or sometimes to celebrate the season. The featured bonsai is grouped with artwork, a scroll, companion plants or artifacts. Special regard is given to the placement of all items within the *tokonoma*. Balance, harmony, use of space and seasonal appropriateness are all thoughtfully considered.

In the brainstorming session that followed Jim's introduction, members were given a chance to apply all the information and "rules" they had learned. Members took turns placing their trees in the Brant's makeshift *tokonoma* and arranged the elements within according to design principles. Aided by constant encouragement from Linda and Jim (the retired school teachers haven't lost their technique!) and suggestions from others, items were juggled, exchanged and shifted to suit. Jim Brant patiently raised, lowered and switched around the couple's hand-painted scrolls until visual harmony was achieved. Thanks to **Jim Gillespie**, who brought along his own personal collection of artifacts and stands, the members had a veritable shopping mall of items from which to choose! Everyone's "aesthetic confidence" increased as the night progressed. Many appealing arrangements were composed and thanks to two



# BSLV Spring Schedule

**February 20th (Thursday) - Mike Novik** (see bio, page 7) from Cape Cod Bonsai Studio, will do a lecture/demo on a formal upright style American larch. Material to be raffled.

**March 25 (Tuesday)- "Bonsai 101- An Intro/Refresher to Bonsai Basics"** An in-house presentation by professors on the BSLV faculty! Course syllabus:

**David Weaver** will explain about bonsai soils, repotting, and watering

**Roger Krauss** will discuss the fine art of choosing a bonsai pot

**Jim Gillespie** will go over fertilizer basics

*C'mon, Newbies, this is a great opportunity to get your questions answered! Bring along a tree because there will be a BYOT Clinic after "classes" are over. You'll get advice from our experts!*

**April 11-13 MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival** -See registration folder. This is the Biggie!

**April 16 (Wednesday)- 7:30** at Meyer's Restaurant on Route 309, Quakertown. This is a combined meeting with the Pennsylvania Bonsai Society. Lecture/demo by **Patrizia Cappellaro de Martino** (see bio on MABS registration form) from Trezzano, Italy. **Solita Rosade** will translate. Material will be raffled. Please consider coming early, meeting up with other members, and having dinner at Meyer's before the presentation.

**May 15 (Thursday)-Dale Cochoy** (see bio, page 7) from Hartville, OH, will give a lecture/demo on a yew (*Taxus*.) Material will be raffled.

**May 17 (Saturday-9:00 am)- Dale Cochoy Workshop** with tropical trees supplied by Dale. Participants select species. Limit: 10 participants at \$30.00 each, registration is a must (tear-off below) Observers: unlimited, \$5.00 at the door.

### Workshop Material Choices

1. Ficus
  - a. F. Burt Davii (known for prolific aerial roots) \$75.00
  - b. F. nerifolia ("willow leaf fig") \$55.00 or \$75.00
  - c. F. retusa 'Green Isle' \$55.00 or \$75.00
2. Bougainvillea-collected trees approx. 18" tall, best for carving, flowers could be red, salmon or white. \$65.00-\$100.00 (market price)
3. Yaupon holly \$50.00
4. Dwarf Schefflera (arboricola)-lots of aerial roots

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### Dale Cochoy Workshop, Saturday, May 17, 2003

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred species (1st choice) \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \_\_\_\_\_

(2nd choice) \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send a check for \$30.00 to Ed Bauer, 1180 Clearwood Drive, Allentown, PA 18103 by April 16 to reserve your spot at the workshop. You may pay Dale Cochoy for the tree at the workshop.**

# Beyond Spring....

**June 21 (Saturday) tentative date- BSLV Annual Picnic/Auction** Our 30th Anniversary Celebration! Join us at the Kondikoff Farm for a fun-filled day! Same format as our 2002 success....Lecture demo this year by Mike Cartrett. Visiting from Florida, Mike is an expert on tropical bonsai. Material will be raffled. Back by popular demand.....a bigger and better Members' Exhibit. Be there or miss out on good fellowship, backyard grillin', important bonsai information, bargain bonsai material, and the beginning of our next 30 years!!!!!!

**September 20 and 21- A Weekend with David DeGroot** at Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, David De Groot is the curator of the Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection at Weyerhaeuser Co. in Federal Way, WA. He is the author of "Basic Bonsai Design," 1995. This event is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bonsai Society - registration forms available in spring.

**September 23 (Tuesday)-** Lecture/demo by Colin Lewis from Massachusetts (formerly from England)

## Membership dues

*for April 1, 2003*

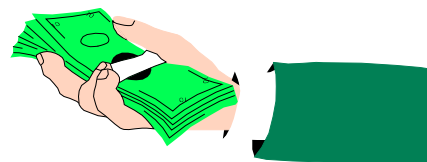
Membership in the BSLV costs:  
\$30.00 per year for an individual  
\$35.00 per year for a family

Please send checks payable to BSLV to:  
P.O. Box 1684  
Bethlehem, PA 18016-1684

Please send any comments, information, or items of interest you would like published in the newsletter to:

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Treasurer **Ed Bauer** reports that the refund received from MidAtlantic was \$1,018.95. The 2001 refund we received was \$880.93!



Club members attending the MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival earn "points" that are translated into dollars which are refunded to the club. Please do yourself (and BSLV) a favor by going to MidAtlantic and immerse yourself in all things BONSAI. Listen to and watch the heavy hitters of the bonsai world as they share their knowledge and work magic before your eyes. Feast your eyes on the top-notch trees on exhibit and check out what the vendors have to offer. *See you there!!!!*



### **Bio-Mike Novik**

Mike's interest in bonsai started in his pre-teen years. He had no formal training in the area until the 70's when Howard McNeal and others from the Reading and Lancaster area mentored him. Mike has been a long-standing member of the Pennsylvania Bonsai Society. He moved his nursery, originally in Mohnton, PA, to Cape Cod 13 years ago. There he started the Cape Cod Bonsai Studio. He is in the process of moving to the finger lake region of Seneca, NY, where he is establishing American Bonsai Supply. More information can still be viewed at [www.capecodbonsai.com](http://www.capecodbonsai.com)

### **Bio-Dale Cochoy**

Dale began studying bonsai in 1978. He studied with Ohio bonsaiman Keith Scott during the late 80's. Dale went full-time with his business, Wild Things Bonsai Nursery in 1998. For 4 years now Dale has been producing his own hand-built, one-of-a-kind stoneware "Wild Things" bonsai pottery. In 2001 he won 2nd place in the modern category at the National Bonsai Foundation's First North American Bonsai Pot Competition. Dale renamed the pottery portion of his business to "Yakimoto no Kokoro" (Heart of Fired Things.)

He also specializes in the sales of many varieties of power wood carving tools for use in bonsai styling and is the USA importer/distributor for the "Samurai" line of bonsai power wood carving tools.

Dale is a founder of the Akron/Canton Bonsai Society and has served as President and Vice President. He is also a past President and Vice-President of the Cleveland Bonsai Club. He is currently serving as a Director of the American Bonsai Society. He maintains his business in Hartville, Ohio and travels throughout the US to teach pottery and bonsai workshops. He has been with MABS since 1997 and was a speaker at the Spring Festival in 1992

**BONSAI SOCIETY  
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY  
P.O. Box 1684  
Bethlehem, PA 18016**



*Stan Harwick's twin trunk tiger bark fig*

**Bonsai Times**



*Dave Tettemer's American larch with driftwood*

## **Bonsai Related Events**

**March 2-9- Philadelphia Flower & Garden Show**, Philadelphia Horticultural Society, Philadelphia Convention Center, PA BS Exhibit, Rosade Bonsai Studio Exhibit.  
*Entrance fee*

**March 8-9- Ameriseiki Group Exhibit** at Longwood Gardens, Suseiki/Viewing Stones. *Entrance fee*

**March 22-23- California BS 46th Exhibition**, San Marino, CA. *Registration*

**April 11-13 MABS** East Hanover, NJ. *Registration*

**May 3-4- Rosade Bonsai Studio Open House**

**May 2-4- Potomac Bonsai Assoc. Exhibit**, National Arboretum, Washington, DC, vendors.

**May 10-11- Nature's Way Open House**, Harrisburg, PA, Nick Lenz

**May 29-June 1- European Bonsai Congress**, Prague, Czech Republic, *registration*

**May 30-June 1- Brussel's Bonsai Nursery Rendezvous**, Olive Branch, MS.  
*Registration*

**July 3-6- MidAmerica Bonsai Alliance**, Cincinnati, OH. *Registration*

**Sept. 5-7- International Bonsai Symposium**, Rochester, NY *Subscription & Registration*