



# the **TREE LINE**

the official monthly publication of the **BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND** | **October 2009**

## Schedule of Upcoming Events

October 17 - 12 to 3 pm **Mentorship Meeting**  
Wilcox residence, 2860 SW 175th, Aloha

October 27 - 7 to 9 pm **Monthly BSOP Meeting**  
St Phillip Neri Parrish, 2408 SE 16th Ave, Portland

November 2 - 6:30 pm **BSOP Board Meeting**  
Don Howse's condo, 503 668-5834

November 4 to 8 - **GSBF Convention XXXII**  
Riverside, CA [www.gsbfcconvention.com](http://www.gsbfcconvention.com)

November 14 - 10 to 2 pm **OSK Meeting**  
J.C. Kitchen Cabinets, Wilsonville

December 19—**BSOP Annual Holiday Party**  
Oaks Park, Portland

## Fall monthly programs

The October monthly BSOP meeting will be on October 27 and will feature a presentation by Dennis Vojtilla on princess persimmons as bonsai.

The November monthly BSOP meeting will be on winterization.



Here's a few shots of Oscar Dewayne Tice, at 7 weeks, smiling for the first time just this past week.

**Scott**

## BSOP TO HOST PNBCA 2012 CONVENTION

After gaining approval of our Board of Directors and the club membership at the September meeting, BSOP made a bid to the PNBCA to host the convention in 2012. I made a presentation to their Board of Directors at the annual meeting in Victoria, B.C on October 3rd and received a unanimous YES to our proposal.

Now we work on the hard stuff. The Convention Advisory Committee will meet for the second time to consider committees and their chairs. The hotel negotiation, material procurement, and programming needs to start as soon as possible. I know three years seems like a long time, but I suspect it will go very fast.

That brings me to asking each of you to contribute your ideas and your support to make this the best convention possible. We will welcome any observations of past conventions. What worked? What did not work? We, also, would like to hear about all those new ideas that would improve our efforts.

Please feel free to email me at [JoanneRaiton@msn.com](mailto:JoanneRaiton@msn.com) any thoughts or questions you might have (about the convention). You can also contact my co-chair, Jan Hettick, at [JanHettick@comcast.net](mailto:JanHettick@comcast.net), or phone her at 503-504-7760.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

**Joanne Raiton**

## Mentorship Meeting for October

### Make your own Bonsai Turntable

**When:** Saturday, October 17th - 12-3pm

**Where:** Wilcox Residence, 2860 SW 175th. Ave., Aloha, OR 97006



Steve has the recipe for a very nice Bonsai Turntable and we'd like to make sure everyone has the chance to build one of their own on the CHEAP!

Rocky Lawton sent me a picture of a modified design to give you an idea of what can be done (see below). You can do something like this if you wish so bring your good ideas. Keep in mind that we will be starting with a pre-cut 12" diameter piece of plywood. You can paint, stain or clear coat the parts if you wish but we will not be doing this during the session.



Here are some items you might want to bring:

- **Gloves** - protect your hands
- **Safety Glasses** - We'll be drilling, sawing and routing wood
- **Ear plugs** - if you feel you need them
- **\$20** - all the materials will be supplied for you

We will also have the ingredients for the 3-part soil mix available for purchase if you'd like to bring some trees for fall repotting.

For more information or directions Steve's cell number is (503) 720-9028 or Scott at (503) 781-0310.

There will be a limited amount of "kits" so **Please RSVP** to Scott Tice via email at: [scotttice@teleport.com](mailto:scotttice@teleport.com)

First come, first served. Hope to see you there!

*Scott*



Front, side and rear views of the bonsai studio of Michael Hagedorn as it nears completion.

## Out on a Limb - Presidents Report

I always enjoy the beautiful days of Autumn. The foliage is turning colors on the maples, and the other deciduous trees. The mornings are crisp, and the mid-day sun is warm and comfortable. The last couple of days have been perfect, and yet I know well that cold wet weather is coming soon. We all should enjoy the ambiance of Fall while we can. We take advantage of these nice fall days to clean our gardens and greenhouses. This also is the time to prepare our bonsai trees for the harsh winter days ahead. I am sure we all can find plenty of tasks to accomplish before the weather changes, but now is a good time to sit back and view your bonsai, and enjoy their beauty, which you have had a part in creating.

In September we re-started the monthly club meetings. It was so very good to see the turnout at the last meeting. Our 1<sup>st</sup>. VP, Rory Zabel did a fine job with a presentation of native trees that can be used in bonsai. Also we had a wonderful and successful silent auction of the bonsai trees from Bob Spahn's collection. It is good that we can help our members during difficult times. Bob and Lynn Pfeiffer-Spahn are grateful that we have helped them distribute Bob's collection that he can no longer care for. Also, the funds generated from the auction, after expenses, have been given to Lynn to help with Bob's ongoing care.

This year we established the Heritage Committee which has the charge to help our members and their families when the member can not care of his or her bonsai plants any longer.

Bob Laws has graciously agreed to chair the committee and has recruited several members to assist him. It is important that we have such a committee, as any one of us may someday face the fact that we cannot care for our treasured bonsai collections. I offer a big "Thank you" to Bob Laws and the Heritage committee. The committee has cared for the plants from Bob Spahn's collection during the months since he moved to his new residence. They have physically moved the plants, and seen to their proper care.

You can participate by volunteering on this committee or any of several others. It takes all of us to make BSOP strong and successful. Consider what you might contribute, by volunteering to help on a committee. We have several committees with opportunities for your participation. We have specific needs with Hospitality and Education. One of the things we like at the monthly meetings is refreshments, and we do not have a chair person. Would you consider taking on this role? We also have requests to offer programs to other organizations, like schools, or garden clubs. Could you help when the call comes to participate in spreading the word about the "Joy of Bonsai", and make a plug for BSOP.

When we gather at the next meeting, will we have coffee, and other refreshments? Can you step forward and coordinate this task? Will we have a program to offer other groups when requested? It is up to You! My Thanks go out to all of those members who do step up to the tasks, often without being asked or receiving acknowledgement.

Enjoy the fine days of Autumn.

*Don*



8" juniper from nursery tree by Harry Harrington

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## Collecting City Juniper for Bonsai

Luka Musich lives in Zagreb, Croatia and collects bonsai material in the city.

“Almost each day while walking or driving through the city streets, I see great bonsai material. Every now and then there is construction going on in the city and these are the chances I'm waiting and looking for so I can collect bonsai material.

While walking around the city, I stumbled upon a big trench in the downtown area of Zagreb.

It was the building of a new water pipeline. The digger had made a big trench, while doing so had been driving over a large island of Juniper.

So I talked to the constructors and the people from the major city horticultural firm that maintains the city streets, and obtained the permission to collect a couple of the injured trees...

The first tree I collected I nicknamed 'Biggy'! With the trunk base standing close to the left edge of the trench, still with a nice green crown, it was a great candidate for bonsai, and it was the first one I wanted out of the ground!

After cleaning the area around the tree, it seemed that actually the tree was a large branch that had rooted (or ground-layered), where it touched the ground. I was sure that there were enough roots to collect it successfully, so it was cut from the (thinner) main tree and collected.

That digger (backhoe) was a big help. All was done in a few seconds! Without it I'd have been digging it out for a couple of hours. Thanks guys!

The trees weren't given any special treatment, no 'miracle' stuff like SuperThrive or foliar feed. They are watered when necessary and misted frequently, 5-10 times a day, because frequent misting reduces transpiration at a time when the roots may struggle to draw enough moisture up into the foliage themselves. I have also kept them in the shade over the hottest part of the day, again to reduce the loss of water through the leaves (transpiration).

All in all, the city is a great bonsai-material store! It's just there are rare chances for collecting...and those chances need to be taken...

So, keep your eyes and ears opened for the digger, the shovel, pike and chain saw sounds, be ready for some tree rescuing, and of course, getting yourself some great bonsai material! “

Lifted from [www.bonsai4me.com](http://www.bonsai4me.com) Go to this site to see photos of Luka and his Junipers and read the entire story. I have a juniper from Milwaukie styled by Lee Cheatle.

This is years after the initial styling by automobile bumper. I am pleased to have this city juniper.  
editor



A sign of fall, a *Pinus parviflora* of Hans van Meer

## Oregon Shohin Kai

Thanks again to Barbara for an excellent venue for OSK. We were very glad there was room for expansion to an additional table to accommodate a larger group.

We were able to set up comfortably with elbow room to work on our trees and also pay attention to Alan Taft. Alan's program was very informative on seed propagation and on a method of Juniper layering that has worked for him.

Since we are working toward Shohin, starting from seed is a good way to work with a tree as it grows to make an attractive Shohin.

Several attendees went home with Seed trays full of seeds. The Juniper layering will have to be tried later at home.

OSK next meeting will be November 14, 2009 at the same venue. We will just work on our trees as this seems to be what we like to do best. We can do winterizing (weeding and light pruning) and wiring on conifers.

Arrive with ideas for programs you would like that will increase our knowledge of Bonsai and especially Shohin.

## Bonsai Supplies from Wee Tree Farm

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*If you need bonsai supplies, please call ahead for delivery at a BSOP meeting*



The *Bonsai Society of Portland* has been an active group in the Portland area since 1966. It is organized to promote the art of bonsai through education, exhibits and social activities. The Society welcomes everyone interested in this unique and beautiful art form to share in the bonsai experience and develop both basic and advanced skills.



#### *Official Website*

[www.portlandbonsai.org](http://www.portlandbonsai.org)  
[portlandbonsai@hotmail.com](mailto:portlandbonsai@hotmail.com)

#### *Mailing address*

PO Box #10615  
Portland, Oregon 97296-0615

*TreeLine deadline: 10th of the month*

The Bonsai Society of Portland meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month except in summer, when other group outings are arranged.

St. Phillip Neri Parish  
2408 SE 16th Avenue, Portland OR  
Northeast corner of SE Division and 16th Avenue  
Visitors are always welcome!

#### Board of Directors

President: Don Howse 503 668-5834 [don@porterhowse.com](mailto:don@porterhowse.com)  
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