

FOUR SEASONS

BONSAI CLUB OF MICHIGAN

March 2009

www.fourseasonsbonsai.com

Issue No. 3

THE BONSAI CIRCUS

MARCH 29, 2:00 P.M. AT TELLY'S GREENHOUSE

Meet in the barn on the far side of the parking lot.

The bonsai circus is one of our most popular club events because there's always something for everyone. Beginners find plenty of information on the basics of bonsai, while long-time club members can find unique subjects of interest too. Several presenters will each give mini-demonstrations on a variety of topics - all simultaneously! Members and guests can jump from one presentation to the next to catch everything, or stick with one or two for a really in-depth lesson. See the topics that interest you most. Ask the questions you've always wanted to ask one-on-one. It truly is a circus!

As of newsletter press-time, the following presenters and topics were confirmed:

Robert Bishop - Repotting.

Lamont Jackson - Wiring the cascade and semi-cascade bonsai styles.

Janine Makowski - Know your tree; the importance of knowing about the plant and where to find information.

John Stevens - The root-over-rock bonsai style plus a black pine from seed technique.

Bill Struhar - Pest control & fertilizing.

Vance Wood - Styling a pine or juniper.

FOUR SEASONS WELCOMES THE TOLEDO BONSAI CLUB

Congratulations to club member Robert Bishop on the founding of the new Toledo Bonsai Club! TBS meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 1-3 p.m. at BenSell Greenhouse, 5720 Dorr St., Toledo, Ohio 43606 (www.bensellgreenhouse.com). TBS fills a much-needed role in the local bonsai community and is having great success signing up members. They plan to take many field trip carpools to Ann Arbor and Four Seasons events. TBS hopes to have a website up and running soon.

UPCOMING BONSAI EVENTS

A couple of big bonsai events will be coming in April and May. If you're willing to travel, your bonsai skill can advance tenfold at these events. The Bonsai Society of Greater St. Louis will host a shohin (small bonsai) convention, April 24-26 in Collinsville, IL, website: www.stlbonsai.org. And the Brussel's Bonsai Rendezvous will be held May 22-24 at their nursery in Olive Branch, MS, website: brusselsbonsai.com.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank all those who came to February's meeting to make it a huge success with Julian Adam's two presentations. It was definitely educational for all levels of bonsai skills.

This month should be one meeting marked on your calendar "not to miss." Presenters will be showing skills at various activities needed to make a bonsai better. There will be several demos on the basics of bonsai; repotting, wiring, pest control and fertilizers. And maybe a surprise or two. And of course as at all our meetings there will be experienced help if needed. So bring your tree to show and tell or to get your questions answered. There will also be several raffle items to add to the party.

We have had several people step forward to volunteer for our annual show but we are in need of still more to make it successful.

Continued on next page.

Continued from President's Message.

Lamont Jackson is our show chairman and will have signup sheets at every meeting with duty specific descriptions, so I'm sure you can find one that you are comfortable with and sign up to help your club. Lets make this year's show even better than last year.

If you have an unusual item, tree, or just about anything, bring it and share what you know about it.

I'll see you at the meeting,

Hector DeBrabant
FSBC President

NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED

After 6 long years (or more?) as the club's indispensable newsletter editor, Anita Ormond is ready to pass the job on to a new volunteer. The club is looking for a new candidate to take over immediately. Todd Renshaw will do the newsletter temporarily until a new volunteer is found. (No, I don't want the job permanently – Todd.) Anita has worked tirelessly to keep our members informed of all the club news and events. The club would like to congratulate Anita on a job well done and let her know we're grateful for all the work she's put into the newsletter. Thank you, Anita!

If you are interested in becoming the new newsletter editor, contact Todd, (248) 585-9916, email: webmaster@mababonsai.org or Hector, (248) 399-9629, email: de.bonsai@yahoo.com. Don't assume someone else will fill the void. The club desperately needs *your* help.

THANK YOU, JULIAN ADAMS!

Julian put on two great presentations at the February meeting. A lot of information was packed into the span of just a few hours. Thank you, Julian! And another big "thank you" goes out to Bill Struhar for suggesting and organizing Julian's visit.

Need copies of Julian's Presentations?

Bill Struhar will be taking orders for CDs of Julian Adams' presentations, "Art of Bonsai" and "Pines Are Easy," at the March meeting, \$6 each. Bill suggests that "Pines Are Easy" is so informative and well organized that even people who were unable to attend the session buy it and use it as a reference tool. This is the only group order the club will place. See Bill at the meeting, or email him at BillStruhar@wowway.com.



Julian Adams' presentations were packed with good information.

The seats were packed with club members too! A great show of club support on a cold February day.



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WHAT'S AHEAD ON THE SCHEDULE FOR 2009

March 29 ... **Bonsai Circus.**
(Simultaneous workshops and demos on all sorts of subjects). This program includes beginner basics, but always has eye-opening demos for experienced members too.

April 26 **Hinoki Cypress Workshop.** Led by Vance Wood. The Hinoki is a must-have species for bonsai. In this workshop, you'll get all the instruction you need to create your own Hinoki bonsai.

May 31 **Bill Struhar's Two-Step Tree Tricks.** A follow-up to Bill's demo last year. This time the emphasis will be on root pruning and repotting.

June 27-28 .. **ANNUAL SHOW.** Roy Nagatoshi returns for a tree-styling demonstration and two workshops. The show includes beginner-friendly demonstrations on bonsai styling, our bonsai exhibit, the raffle of the Nagatoshi demo tree (plus other raffles), as well as bonsai, tools, pots and supplies for sale.

July 26 **Focus on Beginning Techniques.**
3 demonstrators will show must-see techniques for bonsai beginners. For experienced members, treat this as a BYO (bring-your-own) workshop.

Aug. 30 **Bonsai Auction and Pot Luck Lunch.** Held at the home of a Four Seasons member. A great opportunity to acquire everything from high-quality bonsai to low-cost bonsai stock plants, pots and tools.

Sept. 27 **Focus on Advanced Techniques.**

OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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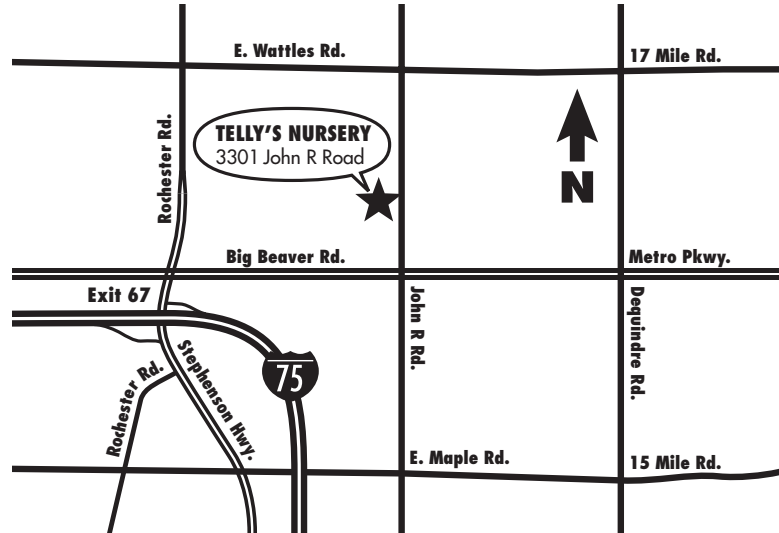
Director, 1-Yr. Term... Todd Renshaw
(phone & email given above.)

Director, 1-Yr. Term... Vacant

DIRECTIONS TO OUR MEETINGS

Our meetings are held at Telly's Greenhouse at 3301 John R Troy, MI 48083-5656, between Big Beaver and Wattles. Nursery phone: 248-689-8735, Nursery website: www.tellys.com. Guests are welcome at meetings.

Meetings are usually held on the last Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Some events are held off-site. Always consult the newsletter issued just before a meeting for exact date, time and location.



Visit the club website at www.fourseasonsbonsai.com



Todd Renshaw, Editor (Temporary)
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913 Hendrickson
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Place
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