
EUGENE BONSAI SOCIETY

Society website: www.eugenebonsai.org

Monthly Meeting - 2014

**September 4th - Preparing
Bonsai for Show**

Details

When: 6:30pm - Help Table

7:00pm - Meeting

Where: Eugene Garden Club

1645 High St.

Parking: Limited space is available across the street. Please don't park in the spaces beside the Garden Club building.

Officers

President - Lynn Medill

1st Vice President - Bill Kohler

2nd Vice President - Tom Fincel

Secretary - RaeAnn Chamberlin

Treasurer - Dean Burkhart

Directors - Harold Diehr, Karen Burkhart, Brian Paterson

Webmaster - Linda Gurney

Exhibits - Bill Elliott

Newsletter - Adam Fleischer



President's Message

According to the calendar, summer is coming to a close and it is time for the Eugene Bonsai Society to come together once again! I hope you and all your bonsai have enjoyed the beautiful, warm sunshine of July and August. I am looking forward to both bonsai meetings, and what I hope to be an extended summer. While my bonsai might be growing old of warm, sunny days, I have not.

Our September meeting will be led by Bill Kohler, as I will not be able to attend the meeting. Dean Burkhart will be giving a presentation on Preparing a Bonsai for an Exhibit.

Looking a little further out in the calendar, Harold Diehr will be demonstrating wiring techniques in October. This will be a good opportunity to learn more about



Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection

Chinese Hackberry (*Celtis sinensis*)

Date of Origin: 1950

Country of Origin: USA

Artist: Mr. Ben Oki

Bonsai Since: 1952

Source: Oki Collection, Culver City, CA

Trees, unlike other art media, exist as living creatures with forms of their own before the artist begins the shaping process. It is easy to understand, then, that to a greater degree than other forms of art, bonsai may be the result of serendipity as well as inspiration.

At one time, this tree was a "volunteer" that had grown up in the artist's yard, too close to his house. As its height approached 20 feet, its branches began to damage the roof, and Mr. Oki was obliged to cut it down. The 4 inch stump seemed to have bonsai possibilities, so it was transferred to a container for development. Today, after more than 40 years of training, it has an ancient looking hollow trunk and beautifully formed branches and twigs.

wiring and practice your wiring skills. Our November meeting will feature an informal exhibit. If you have never put one of your trees on display, this will be a great opportunity to try it in the safety of your own club. Please start thinking about bringing a tree to display.

Thank you, Adam, for sending the newsletter to the membership throughout the summer months! I really enjoy learning more about members through the member spotlight. It is a great addition to the newsletter!

On a final note, while I have enjoyed serving as the president of the Eugene Bonsai Society, I am not able to continue in this role after this year as a new work schedule conflicts with too many of the meetings in 2015. I have especially enjoyed getting to know people better while serving as the president. Thank you for all the support and encouragement you have given me as a leader in the club.

Enjoy the September meeting! I look forward to seeing you in October!

Lynn

2014 Monthly Programs

- January - *No Meeting*
- February - *Soil and Repotting*
- March - *Beginner's Workshop*
- April - *Bonsai Style Types & Design*
- May - *BYO Tree mini-workshop*
- June - *Kingsville Boxwoods*
- July - *No Meeting*
- August - *No Meeting*
- **September - Preparing Bonsai for Show**
- October - *Wiring*
- November - *Bonsai Exhibit*
- December - *No Meeting*



Brian Paterson

How did you get introduced to bonsai?

I first became interested in bonsai when I began studying Okinawan karate and Japanese tea ceremony in San Francisco in the early '80s.

How long have you been practicing bonsai?

I had a pre-potted Juniper that I had no idea what to do with and successfully killed sometime in the '90s, but I've only actually worked with bonsai since joining the EBS.

What is your favorite species to work with?

I really can't choose a favorite, I like most all of them but I do have a particular fondness for group plantings. It was looking at some exquisite group plantings from Japan in an exhibit at the annual Cherry Blossom Festival in San Francisco that truly put me under bonsai's "spell." I think those were maples.

How long have you been a member of the Eugene Bonsai Society?

I joined EBS in June 2011.

If you could give one piece of advice to a new bonsai enthusiast, what would it be?

My only advice for new enthusiasts: don't be in a hurry.

What do you do in "real life"?

In "real life", I am a police officer, assigned to patrol. I am certified as a Drug Recognition Expert, which is a specialty that is called upon by officers when they encounter controlled substance - as opposed to alcohol - DUIs.

Random question of the day: If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?

What would I do if I won the lottery? Probably put a lot into my house and garden and readjust the way I picture retirement, but not much beyond that. I'm pretty simple.

Complete this statement: "Bonsai is...."

...much like life - not a destination but an ongoing journey that if done fully brings joy, beauty, frustration, and the occasional heartbreak.

"The object is not to make the tree look like a bonsai, but to make the bonsai look like a tree."

-John Naka