

Pikes Peak Bonsai Society



WELL ATTENDED MEETING

I don't know if it was the idea of a nice winter day that brought out the members, or knowing that we were going to go to our annual Christmas Lunch after the meeting! Maybe it was the chance to partake in our first Monthly Bonsai Raffle. Then again, maybe it was to hear who was elected to be our new leaders.

Whichever it was, we ended up with one of the largest gatherings we have had in quite a while, 19 people. Those attending where: Bill Fox, Cliff Broyles, Sonya and Steve Alford, Timmy Stewart, Harve Wolfe, Kenny Asher, Angie and Mike (sorry, forgot to get last names) Bob and Maggie Podunovich, Patricia Schmidt, Larry Rohr, Peter Apostolas, Charlie Richards, Claudia



Eley, Ross Huddleson, Julia Wagner and Jeff Phillips.

With such a nice crowd, Bill Fox (our exiting President) had everyone introduce themselves and tell us a little about their Bonsai experience. This was really nice to hear, as it gave some of us who have not seen some of these members in awhile, some idea of their level

of experience with Bonsai.

Personally, I was very impressed with the amount of members we have that have had a great deal of exposure to some of the best people in the Bonsai field. Let's hope they stick around and pass on some of that extraordinary knowledge.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING:

- Meet your new President, David Conlin.
- Discuss soil requirements for transplanting your trees in the Spring.
- Sign-up for volunteers for Spencer's Vendor Show.
- Plan what kind of Demo we will be doing at the show.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SHOW AT SPENCER'S	2
ITEMS WORTH REPEATING	2
OUR FIRST RAFFLE	2
WINTERIZE YOUR BONSAI	3
ANNUAL LUNCHEON	3

ELECTION RESULTS

We have a new President and his name is Barrack.....Oh, sorry, wrong election.

Bill Fox announced the new Board Members as a result of last months election. As I mentioned in last months newsletter, the position of Treasurer will continue to be held by

Charlie Richards (as there were no nominations), Steve Alford is the Corresponding Secretary (by volunteering) and Robert Baran will remain as Communications Officer (again, no nominations).

Drum roll please.....

And the new President of Pikes Peak Bonsai Society is.....

David Conlin

And Vice-President is.....

Robert Baran

VENDOR SHOW AT SPENCER'S GARDEN CENTER

Bill Fox made the announcement that Spencer's Garden Center in Fountain is once again doing their Vendor Display Show this year on March 13th thru the 15th.

Last year those of us that participated had a very good time. And there were a lot of trees that were made available by the other vendors that could have made awesome Bonsai.

Again this year, we will be putting Spencer's ad in our yearbook and receiving free admission to the show. During

the upcoming meetings we will be seeking volunteers to man the show throughout the weekend of the show. So if you have some time to spare please contact a board member to let them know which days you will be available.

Also at future meetings we will be planning on the things that we will be present-



ing at the show in the way of members trees and presentations.

"Spencer's Garden Center in Fountain is once again doing their Vendor Display Show"

ITEMS WORTH REPEATING

Our Treasurer, Charlie Richards, wanted to once again remind those that have not paid their dues to please make an effort to do so. It is with these dues that we pay for any future presentations that are done at our meetings; with people like Harold Sasaki. Without these presenters it is difficult to expand our knowledgebase or be able to add some interesting spice to our monthly meetings. Dues are \$25 for individual and \$35 for a couple.

Cliff Broyles would like to remind anyone interested in supplying him with some tidbits of knowledge that he can put into next years yearbook to please get that information to him soon, as he will be working on this during the next few weeks. He would also like to have photos of those members who would like to have them displayed in the yearbook. You can email them to: cliffbroyles@kw.com

I (Steve Alford) would like to make sure that everyone gets their copy of this newsletter. A few of last months emails where return "recipient unknown". So if you are not getting one, please let me know so that I can correct the email address that I have. I will continue to send them by email, as this saves the club money since they don't get mailed out. I will bring four or five copies to each meeting in case there is someone that did not get one.



OUR FIRST MONTHLY RAFFLE

Thanks goes to Sonya Alford for bringing in four starter Bonsai for our first monthly raffle. The one tree that caught everyone's attention, and prompted very good sales of the raffle tickets, was the Chinotto Orange Tree, one of the best miniature citrus for Bonsai.

This month's winners were...

1. The dwarf schefflera was won by Steve Alford.
2. The Lime scented Geranium was won by Ross Huddleson.
3. The larger schefflera was won by Harve Wolfe.
4. The potato-man bonsai

(donated by Claudia Eley) was won by Sonya Alford

5. And the one we all wanted, the Chinotto Orange was won by Julia Wagner.

With our first raffle we collected almost \$50.

WINTERIZE YOUR OUTDOOR BONSAI

As a new addition to our newsletter, I will be putting in an article or two on things that are pertinent to the seasonal care of your Bonsai.

Even though winterizing is something that you should have done by now, this is good information to know. It comes from Tom and Katie Crecelius of "Nine Dragons Pottery.com"

When winter conditions set in and temperatures drop below freezing your bonsai is subject to freezing also. When a tree is planted in the ground the ground acts as a natural insulator for the root system and keeps it from freezing. When the tree is in a bonsai pot or other container it has no insulating qualities and the tree's root system will freeze and the tree will die. To prevent this from happening the tree has to be stored and protected in one of the following manners:

1. Tree can be left outside and mulched in to protect it from freezing. We suggest putting it under a work bench or some structure that will protect it from heavy ice storms but will allow moisture through to the tree. If a structure is unavailable then putting the tree up next to the house is next best. Mulch heavy covering the bottom first or second branches

of the tree. If it is a dry winter you will need to add additional water to your root system, but only water on the occasional warm 45 -50 degree days. More harm than good will come from watering at freezing temperatures.

2. You may opt to put your bonsai tree in an unheated garage, shed, basement, or enclosure that will not go below freezing. If there is a chance that temperatures in the building may dip below that then we suggest you use a small disc furnace or heater to protect your tree. Bringing you tree indoors and then back out again during the Winter is not recommended.

3. Another option to winterizing your bonsai tree is building a cold frame in the ground. Directions can be found for this in most bonsai instructional books.

Remember to protect your tree before freezing temperatures occur. You don't want to find that you have left your bon-

sai outdoors too long into the season and that it has already gotten too cold for your tree to survive unprotected.

You should never fertilize a tree while in its dormant stage, you do not want to promote growth at that time. Wait until Spring then begin your fertilizing regime again.



Don't take your tree out of protection too soon in the Spring. We can get impatient to take our beauty out and put on display again, but don't get ahead of yourself. Make sure that all danger of frost and freezing is past.

Repotting and pruning of your outdoor bonsai should be done in the spring time when buds have set but not opened. That is the best time to work with your tree to prevent stress and damage.

Do not put your tree in full sun immediately after being in storage all Winter. Give it time to adjust by putting it in a semi shaded area.

"If it is a dry winter you will need to add additional water to your root system, but only water on the occasional warm 45 -50 degree days. More harm than good will come from watering at freezing temperatures."

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



We had quite the crowd for this month's meeting, as mentioned before, which led to at least 14 people going out for lunch after the meeting. We were presented with a long list of possibilities but the group finally agreed to go to Fargo's Pizza Palace on Platte Ave. near the Citadel Mall. We took up one back corner on

the ground floor.

Everyone had a good time and much was discussed. I for one, am looking forward to the next one. It was a lot of fun. For those that did not go, you missed a good time.

Pikes Peak Bonsai Society

<http://www.phoenixbonsai.com/PikesPeakBonsai.html>

Pikes Peak Bonsai Society
Colorado Springs Senior Center
1514 N. Hancock Ave.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Phone: 719-385-5933



CLUB MEETINGS

Non-members and those curious about this art/hobby are always welcome at no obligation!

10 a.m. on the Second Saturday of each month, usually at the **Senior Center** (Ceramics Room),
1514 N. Hancock Ave. (corner of Camarillo at the top of Hancock, 1/3 mile north of Uintah St.), just northeast of downtown Colorado Springs.
(719) 385-5933