



DECEMBER, 2009

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 12



President: David Conlin
dave.jenna@msn.com

Vice President: Robert Baran
rjb@phoenixbonsai.com

Treasurer: Charlie Richards
richards123@q.com

Secretary/Membership: Steven Alford
pmprdcchef@msn.com

Communications Officer: Robert Baran
rjb@phoenixbonsai.com

Members at Large: Bill Fox and
Cliff Broyles

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Fundraising Continued	2
Annual Christmas Party	2
2010 Calendar—Updated	3
Highlights of December	3
From the Club Archives	3
Things to Do in January	4
Crash Bonsai	4

Please be aware that our club's newsletters are now archived on-line -- Google (and Bookmark!) "Pikes Peak Bonsai" and on the left side click on "Newsletter". While there, also check out the link to see some 70 other Bonsai Club Newsletters On-line from around the world.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING:
JANUARY 9TH
@ SENIOR CENTER
DISCUSSION ON BONSAI POTS

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING:
FEBRUARY 13TH
@ SENIOR CENTER
MAKING POTS WITH CLAY

FIRST PPBS FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING

On January 2, 2010, the first ever Fundraising Committee was held at the home of Steve & Sonya Alford. In attendance were Timmie Stewart, Gary Gunther, Charlie Richards and Steve and Sonya Alford.

We started around 1:00 PM and did not get finished until 3:30. It was a very productive meeting. Each person had a tremendous amount of information and energy to add to this meeting, especially Timmie with her background with other Bonsai Clubs.

Between the five of us we came up with eight ways to increase our funds. Steve had a list of at least twelve to start with and each person added a few more and then we selected the top eight.

We tried to make sure that we had ways of making money

with activities that are on an on-going basis and also with activities that are on an annual basis. We ended up with three ideas that are on-going (occur every month) and five that



occur once a year. Here are the winners:

1. Steve and Sonya have started screen printing t-shirts with the club logo on them. These will be going on sale at the January 9th meeting for \$15 each. \$5 from each shirt goes to the club.

2. Timmie will be researching the idea of a lapel pin with our logo. There are people from bonsai societies that go to great lengths to collect these from other societies.

3. Timmie and Steve will be working on a yearly calendar that will have a picture of a members tree for each month. On that month there will be a care sheet for that tree and also what you should be doing for your tree at that time of year. There will be ads sold to help defray the cost of this calendar. The cost of the calendar will be determined but should be \$20 or less.

4. The fourth idea was everyone's favorite; Cow Pie Bingo!! Gary will be heading this one up. He will have to do a lot of re-

(Continued on page 2)

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

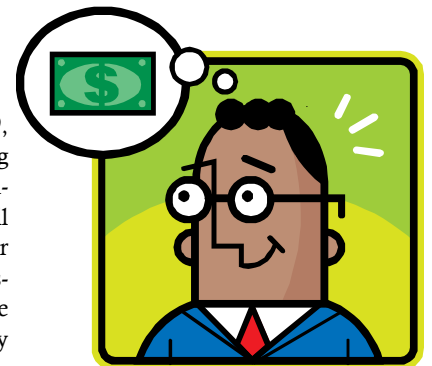
Charlie Richards
10735 Double D Road
Fountain, CO 80817

It is that time of year again, time to help refill the coffers!!

Every January our membership dues come due. If you are a regular member your dues are \$25 and if you are a couple or family then your dues are \$35.

You can bring cash or check to the next meeting or you can **make your check payable to: Pikes Peak Bonsai Society and mail it to our Treasurer at:**

As of December, 2009, Steve Alford will be taking over the duties of Membership Director. He will be keeping track of our member list but, as treasurer, Charlie will still be taking care of the money end of things.



FUNDRAISING CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

search to see if this one can be done. What is a Cow Pie Bingo?? I'm not going to tell you!! You will have to come to the January meeting to hear about this one. You will die laughing. It will be a lot of fun.

5. Gary also suggested getting together with one of the local Garden Clubs; the Horticultural Society or the Broadmoor Garden Club, and see about participating in their plant sale. That would be bonsais for us. We could purchase wholesale trees, pot them up and sell them for a profit at their annual plant sale.
6. A couple of different ways to make our monthly raffle a little more interesting. One is to raffle off a "Lotto Tree". That is a bonsai tree covered with lottery tickets. And the other way is to purchase wholesale pre-bonsai trees, put them in a very simple pot

and raffle or auction it off at our monthly meeting.

7. Timmie brought up the idea of bringing in outside speakers. In this case they would be bonsai masters (or the closest thing we can find!!) and have a one or two day workshop that each member would pay a fee to attend. We make money by charging a fee and then raffling off the tree the master was working on. It is our hope that we can work out something with the Denver club when they have a guest speaker. Hopefully that speaker can then come to the Springs for a "reduced" rate (since he is already here!) and do a workshop with us. In affect, we would be splitting the cost with Denver. Cheaper for both of us.
8. And the last idea is to have an annual yard sale. This would be comprised of any an all items that you would see at any garage sale. These items would

come from member's donations and also the donations of our friends. We will need a volunteer for this one. Someone who is willing to "donate" their front yard. Someone who lives in a neighborhood that is conducive to yard sales and has a nice big yard. Anything left over after a two-day sale will be donated to charity. We stand to make the largest amount of money off this idea if we can get it off the ground. Any volunteers???

These are some awesome ideas and there will be a lot of work to get each and every one of them up and running. So don't expect to see all of them in place in just one year. It will take several years to do them and keep them running for years to come.

If you think you are interested in helping with any of these, please do not hesitate to ask one of the people mentioned above. We would be very grateful for any assistance we can get.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Even though we had bad weather, we still managed to have a crowd for our annual Christmas Luncheon. At the December 12th meeting we had twelve people, but when we got to the Phantom Canyon Bar and Restaurant, the amount shrank to only eight. But we still managed to have a great time.

We had a Chinese gift exchange. I thought one of the best gifts was from Bill Fox. It was a gift set of Bonsai tools and a how-to-book on bonsai. These would even make great new-member gifts.



Be sure to come to the next meeting, January 9th. If you have anything that you would like to donate for our monthly raffle, please bring it to the meeting. And if you have not yet paid your dues, it would be greatly appreciated if you could take care of this as soon as possible so that we can update the annual yearbook with the paid members.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2010 —UPDATED

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 22-23, 2010

Club-conducted demonstration on pruning/styling/repotting at the home of Bill Fox,

with a hands-on workshop for a modest fee on Sunday. Observers-only for the workshop are also welcome for an even more modest fee.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DECEMBER 12TH MEETING

Though the weather was not cooperating, we still ended up with twelve people at our December meeting.

Before heading out for our Christmas Luncheon we had a meeting to cover some important issues.

Dave informed us that the board had their first OBM (outside board meeting) and several things were discussed including the revision of the club bylaws. These are, at the present time, being reviewed by the board and in the next several weeks they will be made available for the members to review and then we will vote on any changes that are made.

The treasurer's report, as of 11/30/09, is \$1,216.67 and savings is \$35.45. I was able to add \$60 to this total from ads that will be appearing in our 2010 Yearbook.

There will be a Show Committee meeting on the 6th of February. This committee consists of the same people that were on the committee last year.

An audit committee was formed. This con-

sists of Ross Huddleson and Dave Conlin. They will be working on a time to meet and go over the club financial records. This will be done on a yearly basis.

In February we will be making our own pots out of clay. We did this for the first time last year and it was a lot of fun. They will be fired in March and we will be able to pick them up in April.

In March we will be doing Spencer's Garden Show again this year.

In April we will be doing a workshop on repotting trees. We will discuss soil and you will be able to bring one of your trees and learn how to repot it. Steve will bring a few five gallon pails with bonsai soil mix in it for everyone's use.

Also in April we will be putting together a group collecting trip in the mountains for those who want to do a little Yamadori.

May 22-23 we will be having a demonstration at Bill Fox's home on pruning and styling. On Sunday there will be a work-

shop for you to work on a tree that you will get for a small fee (fee will be determined later, depending on cost of tree).

Denver will once again be having their show on Father's Day weekend in June. We would like to be able to put some of our trees in their show so if you have a tree you feel like showing off now is the time to do it.

We also discussed the idea of having our annual bonsai show in the month of July instead of September. Right now it is scheduled for September, but if things work out and we can find another location, we will be rescheduling. Some of the options for a different location are: the Citadel Mall, Beamis Art School, Colorado College Cornerstone building or BAC Business of Arts Center in Manitou.

Dave would like to nominate two people to be Members at Large since this is something that is required by our bylaws. We nominated Cliff Broyles and Bill Fox.

FROM THE CLUB ARCHIEVES

Natural Spider Miticide

By Carl L. Rosner

Ingredients:

1. Water
2. Oil
3. Rubbing alcohol
4. Dish detergent

Directions:

Fill a gallon jug with water and add one (1) or two (2) tablespoons of dishwashing detergent and one (1) tablespoon of vegetable oil (or Neem oil). Shake up the jug to mix the ingredients.

Fill a small spray bottle with this mixture from the gallon jug. Just before using, add

one (1) or two (2) caps full of rubbing alcohol and spray immediately. If you do not use the entire contents of the spray bottle, the next time you use it, make sure you put another capful or two of alcohol in the mix, as the alcohol will evaporate.

This mixture can be stored for months on end, as it does not seem to go bad.

Spray on plants covering all leaf and stem surfaces. You may have to spray from three to four times with intervals of three days. I have eliminated almost any kind of pest that has attacked my trees, including scale.

I do not wash off the spray and have seen no adverse reaction to the trees from this mixture.



Spider Mites



THINGS TO DO IN JANUARY

During the bleak winter months, the extreme cold temperatures can take its toll on all of your trees. The main task is to protect them from the very cold weather. These tips are given assuming that you followed the past procedures on making sure your trees were placed somewhere that they will be protected. Whether that is in a outside window sill, buried in their pots or you built a poly house.

Check the soil in the pots to make sure it has not dried out. If so, water the soil in the morning so it is just damp.

Don't wait until spring to do all of your maintenance! Winter is an excellent time

need. Finally, watch out for mice making homes in your trees. Use mothballs or a hungry cat to prevent problems!

This is the heart of winter, and while your trees are deep in dormancy, there is still work to be done. Continue your winter care by keeping your trees mulched and protected from freezing



weather. Don't forget to check them as they do need watered from time to time, although their water needs will be minimal.

bleach solution and removing them from the solution. This soaking sanitizes the container and will kill any fungi which may have contaminated the container.

Prepare soil mixes for your potting and repotting in the next few months. On nice warm days you can re-shape your deciduous trees with light pruning.

If you have wired any bonsai in the late fall you should check to make certain the wires are not too tight. Even though trees are dormant there is a certain amount of growth that takes place. Remove the wires if you see signs of wire damage to the bark.

At this time it would be a good idea to clean and sharpen all your tools. Then wipe them down real good with a light oil to help preserve them.

Wash all containers that were used in training and growing bonsai. Use a mild laundry detergent, rinse thoroughly with clean water and then soak for 10 minutes in a household bleach (not scented) solution of 1 part bleach to 9 parts of water. This is a strong solution so do use plastic gloves or a pair of tongs when placing containers into the

for heavy pruning, new design and carving, needle plucking on pines (2-3 yr old needles). Don't forget to take off old wire and add new wire.

This is a good time to plan your repotting schedule for spring. Draw up a list of trees that need repotting and order your soil requirements and any pots you may

AND YOU THOUGHT MY IDEA WAS SILLY!!!

During a recent search on the internet for one thing or the other (it seems that is all I do anymore since I have been unemployed now for ten months—LOL), I came across this.

It seems this gentleman is an avid model car builder in his retirement and he also enjoys bonsai. So one thing lead to another and he ended up putting one of these on one of his trees for display and people liked it. Kind of how the newspaper people liked my tire swing!!! And a new product was born—Bonsai Car Crash. If this is something you think you might be interested in, here is his website:

<http://www.crashbonsai.com/>

Prices range from \$50 to \$150.

"Each model is unique, and individually disassembled, cut, melted, filed, smashed, then reassembled to replicate a real fender bender. Some models might work perfectly with a bonsai you already have, but generally you should expect to create a new bonsai around the vehicles, often placing the tree more to the side of a pot to make room for the vehicle. No passengers have been injured in Crash Bonsai accidents, although some drivers have reported a brief, even euphoric loss of consciousness."





Japanese Tansu Style Bonsai Tool Chest

- Handcrafted from solid hardwoods with dovetail construction.
- Two deep drawers to store Bonsai tools.
- Attached 10" turntable.
- Two solid doors with carved Bonsai trees.
- Spacious cabinet interior with rod to hang Bonsai wire. Plenty of room for larger tools and even a few Bonsai Pots.
- Wire protrudes through holes in back for easy dispensing.
- All for \$195 (wire not included).
- Contact Steven Alford — 719-633-9110
- **Also ask to see my new Bonsai Stands!!**
- **NEW!! Club T-shirts w/logo**

A personal thanks to all those that purchased my tool chests and stands at the Springs Show and at the Denver Show. You helped make my life a lot easier. Thanks again to all of you, especially Cliff Broyles and Bill Fox.

Look to this space in the future for want ads, sales ads and a place to put that ad for your business!!

If you have anything to put in this space, let me know.

A 2x3 insert is \$5 for one issue, \$10 for 3 issues, and \$18 for one year.

A 3x4 insert is \$10 for one issue, \$20 for 3 issues and \$36 for the year.

For more information call Steve Alford at 633-9110 (evenings) or email me at pmpdchef@msn.com

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

Because of the situation with the Senior Center and the \$60 monthly charge for a meeting, it is strongly recommended that you check the above referenced website to confirm the location of the meeting you wish to attend.



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