



RMBS

April 2017

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PHOTO THANKS TO MIKE BRITTEN. GREAT CONTRAST OF DEAD WOOD NEXT TO NEW GROWTH.

April President's Message

by Tom Anglewicz

Learning About Bonsai

Perhaps the most important goal of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society is to educate our members about the art of bonsai, and to facilitate their ability to grow and expand that knowledge. Above all else, our club should be a vehicle for learning about bonsai.

In our last executive board meeting we had a lively discussion about how we can best accomplish that goal. I think we all appreciate that not every RMBS member has the same personal motivations or objectives. Some view bonsai as a casual pastime or hobby, and others see it as a larger commitment, in terms of time, energy and involvement. Whatever your intentions,

RMBS can be a resource for expanding your understanding and appreciation of this remarkable art form.

When we think about bonsai education, we often focus on formal classes or hands-on workshops. These are certainly important, and they are a key reason why we implemented the Bonsai Basics classes, providing a solid foundation for those members who are just getting started with bonsai practice. But the question always arises, "Where do I go from there?" How do we keep members involved and motivated to expand their knowledge?

Several ideas and suggestions evolved from our board discussion. First, we need to look into making Bonsai Basics a *series* of classes

during the course of the year, not just one session; there needs to be a progression. Second, we need to emphasize the array of educational resources that are available to members who are beyond a novice level and want to grow. In order to maximize the benefit of these resources, it's important that individual members take the initiative to utilize them, and to understand that, together, they can yield a set of effective vehicles for expanding knowledge. Here are some pertinent examples:

- Every RMBS meeting has a primary learning focus. Some are inspirational, such as Larry Jackel's presentation on the Doug Paul collection. Others are more how-to, such as an upcoming program on collecting trees from the wild. The short program in every meeting is often focused on an "inspiration tree", with a presentation by the owner of its history and development.
- For guest bonsai artist presentations we have purposely shied away from the traditional styling "demonstration" and are focusing instead on analysis and design recommendations for trees submitted by members.
- Guest artist workshops are terrific opportunities for members to do hands-on work on one of their trees under the direction of a bonsai professional. An added benefit for less experienced members is to attend as observers, soaking up the information provided during the discussion of each tree.
- Saturday club workshops, taught by accomplished club members from spring to fall, typically focus on important bonsai skills, such as correct procedures for repotting, wiring, tree analysis and styling, etc., in a hands-on setting. Often these sessions are held at the homes of individual members, affording the opportunity to see their collections.
- Several RMBS members are accomplished collectors of *yamadori* (wild trees from the mountains). They have outstanding pre-bonsai stock available for purchase and can advise you on how to care for these specimens. We also have members who are excellent creators of bonsai containers and display stands.
- Every Wednesday morning, virtually year-round, Larry Jackel hosts and mentors a bonsai study group at the DBG Chatfield Farms greenhouse and the DBG Bonsai Pavilion during summer months. These informal workshops are open to any RMBS member.
- Mentorships with experienced club members are available; just ask. A number of senior club members are more than willing to work with newer people on a regular basis to coach and advise them about how to develop their trees and expand their horizons.
- RMBS owns an extensive library of bonsai books and periodicals that are available for loan at every meeting. Our annual budget includes a generous allowance for regular acquisition of new materials.

- Finally, the internet is an extremely valuable source of bonsai knowledge. As we redevelop our website, we will continue to make our members aware of the best and most valuable of these, such as the newly formed weekly live stream from Ryan Neil's Bonsai Mirai (see separate article in this newsletter from Adam Johnson).

My point in mentioning all of this is simply to remind everyone that there are a myriad of ways for you to expand your knowledge of bonsai, at whatever level or intensity you choose. The resources are there, but you must take the initiative. If you are hungry to learn, the opportunities are out there, and you will not be disappointed!

Tom Anglewicz

2017 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Date and Location	Agenda or Program
<p><u>Monthly Meeting</u> April Tue, April 4th, 7:00 – 9:00 pm Gates Hall – We will not be allowed to park in the back lot. You must park in the garage and enter the Pinon gate.</p>	<p><u>SHORT PROGRAM – ADAM JOHNSON</u> INSPIRATION TREE <u>LONG PROGRAM – BOB RANDALL</u> TREE COLLECTING</p>
<p><u>Saturday Workshop</u> April Sat, April 22nd, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Adam Johnson’s house in Boulder 701 75th Street - Boulder, CO 80303</p>	<p><u>SATURDAY STUDY GROUP</u> REPOTTING WORKSHOP</p>
<p><u>Saturday Workshop</u> May Sat, May 6th, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Takayama Park</p>	<p><u>TAKAYAMA PARK</u> TREE WORK AND CLEANUP WORKSHOP</p>
<p><u>Visiting Artist Workshop</u> May Sat, May 20th, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.</p>	<p><u>VISITING ARTIST – MAURO STEMBERGER</u></p>
<p><u>Monthly Meeting</u> May Tue, May 23rd, 7:00 – 9:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.</p>	<p><u>LONG PROGRAM – MAURO STEMBERGER</u></p>
<p><u>Monthly Meeting</u> June Tue, June 6th, 7:00 – 9:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.</p>	<p><u>LONG PROGRAM – TOM ANGLEWICZ</u> PRESIDENTS CHOICE</p>
<p><u>Saturday Workshop</u> June Sat, June 17th, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm Limber Pine Grove Excursion</p>	<p><u>LIMBER PINE GROVE</u> CLUB EXCURSION TO THE LIMBER PINE GROVE MEET AT TWIN FORKS PNR 6164 US-285, MORRISON, CO 80465</p>
<p><u>Summer Barbecue</u> July Sun, July 9th, 11am till 2pm</p>	<p><u>LOCATION TBD</u></p>
<p><u>Monthly Meeting</u> July Tue, July 11th, 7:00 – 9:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.</p>	<p><u>LONG PROGRAM – BJORN BJORHOLM</u></p>
<p><u>Visiting Artist Workshop</u> July Sat, July 15th, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.</p>	<p><u>VISITING ARTIST – BJORN BJORHOLM</u></p>
<p><u>Monthly Meeting</u> August Tue, August 1st, 7:00 – 9:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.</p>	<p><u>SHORT PROGRAM – TERRILL SAMUELSON</u> INSPIRATION TREE <u>LONG PROGRAM – DUSTY KRAFT</u> STAND MAKING</p>
<p><u>Saturday Workshop</u> August Sat, August 19th, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm Windy Ridge Excursion</p>	<p><u>WINDY RIDGE</u> CLUB EXCURSION TO WINDY RIDGE MEET AT TWIN FORKS PNR 6164 US-285, MORRISON, CO 80465</p>
<p><u>Visiting Artist Workshop</u> September Sat, Sept 2nd, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.</p>	<p><u>VISITING ARTIST – MATT REEL</u> Page 4 of 7</p>

2017 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Date and Location	Agenda or Program
<u>Monthly Meeting</u> September Tue, September 5 th , 7:00 – 9:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.	<u>LONG PROGRAM – MATT REEL</u>
<u>Annual Show</u> September Tue, September 8 th , 9 th , and 10 th Denver Botanic Gardens	<u>RMBS ANNUAL SHOW</u>
<u>Monthly Meeting</u> October Tue, October 3 rd , 7:00 – 9:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.	<u>SHORT PROGRAM – DAVID MCPETERS</u> INSPIRATION TREE <u>LONG PROGRAM – BILL SAMPLE</u> POTTERY MAKING
<u>Monthly Meeting</u> November Tue, November 7 th , 7:00 – 9:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.	<u>WHITE ELEPHANT</u>
<u>Monthly Meeting</u> December Sun, December 3 rd , Noon – 2:00 pm DBG Plant Society Bldg.	<u>HOLIDAY PARTY</u>

NEWS FOR MEMBERS

April Monthly Meeting**Bob Randall – Tree collecting in the Rockies**

Bob Randall, one of several experienced collectors in the society will be presenting a program on tree collecting.

This is a topic that is often of interest for members both new and old.

Bob's program will be a presentation covering:

- Ethics of collecting
- Useful tools and supplies
- Techniques for collecting
- After care of trees collected

Membership Renewal:

RMBS has adopted a policy where all membership renewals occur on July 1, and cover the succeeding 12 months, ending on June 30th.

All memberships renew this summer on July 1st, 2017. Individual memberships are \$35 per year and family memberships are \$50 per year.

You may pay via cash or check at any monthly meeting, or mail your check to the address below. If you mail your check please be sure to include your email address and telephone number.

PAYMENT ADDRESS:

Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society
c/o Membership Renewal
PO Box 271043
Louisville, CO 80027

Akadama and Pumice for sale by RMBS

There is still Pumice available for sale from last year's shipment. It is stored at the gardens and you can pick it up at a meeting. Contact Larry Jackel or Adam Johnson. The price is \$15 per bag.

There is still Akadama available for sale from last year's order. There are both medium and small size available. All will be in 14 liter bags at a cost of \$48/bag. Todd, and others, have ordered and used Akadama from this supplier. It is very good quality. Contact Todd and he will bring it to the next Tuesday meeting where you can pick up and pay.

Discounts Available to Members

We have an account established with Way to Grow Gardening Supply in Denver. You can receive discounts on some items up to 15%. You will need to tell them you are a member of RMBS.

Classified Ads:

YAMADORI – native Rocky Mountain yamadori trees for sale or trade. Well established trees from \$75 for beginner trees to \$1,000+. Cash or trade. Please email me adamhjo@yahoo.com and I can send you pictures.

Resources for Members:

Looking forward to the spring here are a couple of articles and sites you might find useful.

Brussel's Rendezvous 2017 is May 25th – 28th. You can find info [here](#).

Michael Hagedorn blog on an interesting arraignment with a [Shore Pine](#).

Other internet resources:

[RMBS Web Site](#)

[Colorado Bonsai Ltd.](#)

[First Branch Bonsai](#)

[S&S Bonsai](#)

[RMBS Facebook Page](#)

[Mike Horine Website](#)

INTERESTING PHOTOS

Finally. Something I think is very cool. The picture below is Paul Gilberts. It is a fossilized wood viewing stone named The Emperor. A tree and a stone in one!





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We carry many trees that you will not see on our website. We suggest coming by to see them. We only ask that you call ahead and make an appointment to make sure we will be there.



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We're located on the west side of the Denver Metro area, near I-70 and Youngfield.

Email us at: co.bonsai.ltd@gmail.com