



Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley

Bonsai Times

P.O. Box 1684, Bethlehem, PA 18016

January 2021

Message From the President

No winter lasts forever, no spring skips its turn. -Hal Borland

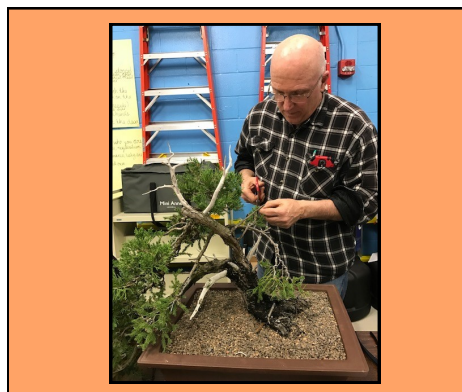
Hello to BSLV members and Friends,

Winter is trying to make an appearance in the area but is doing a poor job of it. I trust all your trees are safely tucked away out of the weather. Mine are tucked in the garage and I am tucked in the house! Planning activities is at a standstill, as you might suspect, due to the ongoing virus situation. Your board did have a meeting last month via Zoom however no activities have been planned for the foreseeable future. My hope is that by late summer or early fall we can resume our gatherings.

I hope some of you were able to take advantage of and enroll in the bonsai courses offered by Bonsai Empire last year. I felt that this was a good opportunity to take lessons from some of the experts in the field. Remember, you can always enroll in the courses but just not at the discounted prices at this point.

Please know if you have any questions regarding your trees we are here to try and help. If you would like to submit some photos of your trees in storage I would appreciate you doing so. I need some new material to put on our Facebook page. Also, suggestions for activities you would like to see or topics you would like to see addressed are welcome.

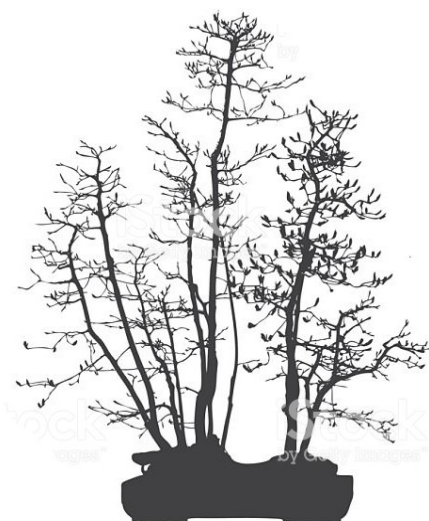
Stay safe and healthy,
Bob Ruhe uscvs11@yahoo.com



BSLV President, Bob Ruhe

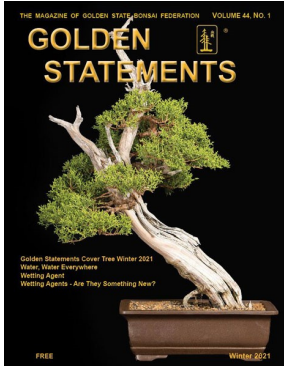
BSLV Board

President: Bob Ruhe
Vice President: vacancy
Secretary/ Treasurer: Jack Kane
Program/Education: Jim Gillespie
Newsletter: Linda Kondikoff
Director: Rodney Conn
Director: Jim Heacock
Past President: Greg Krause



Some Good News!

Two groups are now offering FREE online access to their publications!!! What a great opportunity to acquire bonsai knowledge in the comfort of your own home! Thank you to Joe Sauer and Jim Gillespie for relaying this info.



Golden State Bonsai Federation is offering FREE subscriptions to their magazine, “Golden Statements.” Cut and paste this link to subscribe:

<http://www.gsbfbonsai.org/Articles.asp?ID=291>



International Bonsai is also offering its online magazine for free. Please read the email from Bill Valavanis for more information on how to get free online subscriptions or how to purchase printed back issues. Just cut and paste the links that interest you.

Dear customers and friends,

In order to advance classical bonsai art to a broader and world-wide audience, I have decided that after publishing International BONSAI for 42 years and producing 164 issues, to suspend the printed edition.

Instead I will expand my educational offerings with the introduction of International BONSAI OnLine which is a FREE digital bi-monthly magazine, it will continue with the high standards of quality we have introduced to English language bonsai magazines. It continues to be the first and only professional bonsai magazine published in the United States.

With the introduction of the Free bi-monthly magazine in a digital edition, I feel we can reach more people and International BONSAI OnLine has the potential of having the largest circulation making it ideal for advertisers to offer their products and services; as well as to promote bonsai exhibitions, conventions and other gatherings. You can easily subscribe FREE

at: www.internationalbonsaionline.com

You can order printed Back Issues which can be selected by topic

here: www.internationalbonsai.com/page/497153594

Our very much anticipated 2021 Seedling & Pre-Bonsai Catalog is now available in our main website which also has other items such as books and albums. Order early to avoid disappoint-

ment. www.internationalbonsai.com/seedling%20list

My blog, full of beautiful photos, introduces exhibits, events and other interesting topics from around the world: www.valavanisbonsaiblog.com

Hoping spring comes early!
Diane and William Valavanis

Lifetime Membership Awarded to Jean Kessler

The Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley is pleased to announce that BSLV board has granted Jean Kessler, a near- founding member of the club, a Lifetime Membership to our club. This is the first such award in the club's 47 year history.

Jean was one of the earliest members of BSLV when it started in summer of 1973. Since that time, Jean has remained a loyal, enthusiastic and supporting member. I'm sure you had the pleasure of meeting her at our some of our meetings or at annual picnics – picnics she hardly every missed. In addition to attending local club events, at which she had the opportunity to meet bonsai master John Naka, Jean was a frequent attendee of the MABS Spring Festival. While maintaining a very busy life, having traveled all over the world, and being an usher for the Bach Choir of Bethlehem for over 70 years, Jean continued to enjoy her Bonsai tree collection which, at its peak, numbered 35 trees. In 2019, Jean's daughter, Darcy, graciously donated Jean's collection (then numbering about 15 trees) on her behalf to the club. A special indoor auction was held in November, 2019 and netted over \$1300 for BSLV. You may even be the proud owner of one of Jean's trees, tools or books! If so, be assured that there is a powerhouse of good karma present in those items!

Jean liked conifers for her collection, particularly larches and junipers. Her favorite style was the informal upright but she also loved cascades. For her favorite cascade, her husband, Don, who was a an artist in his own right, made a custom stand for storage and transportation.

Please join me in thanking Jean for her long standing support of BSLV and in wishing her good health and joy in the years to come.

On behalf of the BSLV board,
Jack Kane
BSLV Secretary/Treasurer

So, BSLV members, thank you for keeping the faith and believing that we will eventually be in each other's company as a group. We look forward to the day when we can once again attend lecture/demos, have hands-on sessions, design in groups, participate in shows, exchange knowledge and educate the public about this art form we love.

We have the spirit and the will, we just need safe circumstances!



Looking Ahead...

Unless otherwise specified, BSLV meetings will take place at the **Cathedral Church of the Nativity, 321 Wyandotte St. Bethlehem.** Visit the church's website for more specific directions and parking info:
www.nativitycathedral.org/about/directions/

Our meetings are on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm.



We will continue to hold **silent auctions** during all club meetings as an on-going fundraiser for club activities. Please consider offering up some of your bonsai trees, materials, tools, books or art for these monthly auctions. You keep 75% of the final price, the club gets 25%.



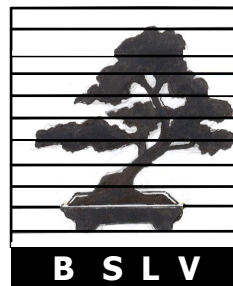
"Experience Art in Nature"

Jim Gillespie
3183 Pine Rd.
Danielsville, PA 18038

(610) 837-6688
jagill@verizon.net

BSLV DUES

\$40.00/ individual
\$45.00/ family
(still a bargain!)



Benefits include:

- Educational Programs & Workshops
- International Speakers
- Newsletters
- BSLV Website
- 10% Discount on Sho Fu En Merchandise
- Auction/Picnic
- Annual Banquet