

# THE TWIG



**David Knittle: Keeping your bonsai tools sharp  
September 30 at pfm bonsai  
Noon Lunch and social hour Program at One PM**

David Knittle is returning to teach us how to keep our tools in good shape and sharp.

Be sure to bring your tools...making sure each one is marked in some way that you will know it is yours.

The fee for David sharpening your tools will be \$4 per tool.



## PHOTOS FROM DAVID EASTERBROOK'S VISIT:



and the new home for this Thuja is at Dorothy's

### Notes from Easter brook August 26, 2012

This Eastern white cedar is a Mountain tree...straight. This material has character and is compact due to harsh conditions.

Always look for material with many possibilities.

It has a sad melancholy look....has wabi sabi.

The trunk is well weathered from over the years.



Nursery plants lack the character of collected trees

A pot often over bonsais the tree.

Consider using a slab.

Too many bonsai masters try to put their ideas into the tree...subjugate your self to the tree and bring out its natural beauty.

This species is easy to collect because ( like all cypress) of a very fibrous shallow root system. They have a wider transplant season in spring.

Grow in lower parts of the mountain....often on islands. Ice is a factor in the creation of shoreline trees.

Like coolness and water.

Leaving lower branches on a tree makes it more shrub like rather than tree like.

Fertilized with 20-5-20 in late spring after recovered from repotting. Mid august used 8- 20 -30 as a finishing conifer fertilizer. N in form of nitrates allowing the tree to absorb it in the coolness of fall. Has been well watered and treated.

The tree has character because it is breaking the rules.

We want austere collected bonsai not lush. Lush does not match their growing history.

Do not create a tree with too much jin....and not too long.

When making jin...do tear shaped cut into live wood.

Cedar must be either wet or dry....where dry meets wet rot occurs

Wiring is relaxing...you are creating some order out of chaos. Consider annealing your own fine wire Use the least amount of wire to do the job.

Try to make the wire NOT show.

Thuja has one side foliage pads. If the bottom surface is positioned up, it dies.

To prune....pinch in spring. Cut in fall.

When wiring a branch, work your way outwards just as we work from nebari to apex of the tree.

There is a difference between training wiring and show wiring. Training wiring is thicker.

Be neat...keep all wires in the same direction.

Create volume for each branch by building up the wired fronds.

### MINUTES OF AUGUST MEETING FROM SANDY

President Tom called the meeting to order at 1:10.  
The raffle netted \$145.00. Many thanks.

#### Upcoming events

September 30 David Knittle will give a presentation on tool sharpening. He will then be available to sharpen tools for a minimal fee.

October will be an open workshop. More details to follow.

ABS will be in September of 2013. Our club will be exploring ideas for pedestals to be used in the show. Construction of the pedestals will be in the summer of 2013.

helping vendors set up  
setting up the bonsai exhibit  
stuffing bags for convention participants  
and more jobs to come!

#### Miscellaneous Announcements

Molly Beverage has graciously volunteered to be our new treasurer. Our thanks and appreciation go out to her!

Thank you to all club members for your willing participation and support of our club picnic and sale. It was a big success and will defray club expenses for the rest of the year.

Respectfully submitted, Sandy Kiszkiel, secretary - MHBS

### BONSAI EVENTS FOR OUR CLUB AND BEYOND

Sept 29-30 David Knittle double event: Build a Tokonoma / Sharpening Bonsai Tools

October 4-7 International Stone Appreciation Symposium Granville PA

October 20 Nature's Way Fall Open House in Harrisburg PA see

<http://www.natureswaybonsai.com/> for more information

October 28 Open BYO workshop

November 18 Surprise Event with Tom K. PLACE TBD dependent on weather

Dec 2 Annual Christmas Dinner at Charlton Village Tavern

### Officers MHBS 2012

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**MANY THANKS TO OUR RETIRING TREASURER, PIERI HAYES**

### WEB SITES OF INTEREST

American Bonsai Society - [www.absbonsai.org](http://www.absbonsai.org)  
Bonsai Clubs International - [www.bonsai-bci.com](http://www.bonsai-bci.com)  
MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies - [www.midatlanticbonsai.freeservers.com](http://www.midatlanticbonsai.freeservers.com)  
National Bonsai Foundation - [www.bonsai-nbf.org](http://www.bonsai-nbf.org)

THE MHBS WEB SITE IS  
<http://mohawkhudsonbonsai.org>