

## Who We Are

We are a society interested in learning, preserving, promoting, creating and maintaining Bonsai. The Northern Virginia Bonsai Society (NVBS) members represent many levels of expertise from the beginner to the professional.

## What We Do

Invited speakers address the club on various aspects of growing and caring for Bonsai. Workshops and demonstrations are held throughout the year where participants may create their own Bonsai. NVBS members are given the opportunity to promote the understanding and appreciation of Bonsai during the various exhibitions of their trees, including displays at the National Arboretum in Washington, DC, our annual NVBS Spring Show, and participating in cultural events in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

## Where We Meet

NVBS meets at the Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 So. 16th Street, Arlington, Virginia, 22204-4910 (703-228-0935) on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. until noon except for off-site programs. Off-site programs include the Annual Spring Show and the December Holiday party. Please call the center before coming to your first meeting.

To receive more information about NVBS contact:

General & Program Information— Gary Reese, President  
greese67@msn.com

Membership information—Stephen Ash, Treasurer  
sea02616@yahoo.com

### Map to Walter Reed Community Center



**Pete Jones discussing the possibilities of this tree with a group of NVBS members. Many Bonsai begin as nursery bought trees, unwanted landscaping thrown in the trash by neighbors and builders, or plant materials collected on one of the inexpensive NVBS or PBA collecting field trips.**

# Learn to Grow Bonsai

At the Walter Reed Community  
Center

Northern Virginia



Bonsai Society

NVBS

A member of the Potomac Bonsai  
Association  
(PBA)

<http://nvbs.us>



Jack FitzSimons helping Jeanne Nelson at a NVBS workshop.

## ***What is Bonsai***

Bonsai, (pronounced *bone-sai*) (“tray gardening” in Japanese), is the art of growing trees and plants, kept small by being grown in a pot and by the use of skilled pruning, formed to create an aesthetic shape and the illusion of age, although many bonsai trees are quite old and simply show their age in miniature form.

Bonsai, developed by the Japanese more than a thousand years ago, is derived from the Chinese practice of growing miniature plants

It was brought to Japan by imperial embassies to Tang China (the 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> century). At that time Bonsai was only for the enjoyment of people of the chosen hierarchy. Today enthusiasts from all over the world enjoy and create Bonsai trees.



The Annual Spring Show

## ***NVBS Monthly Programs***

Bonsai is an art that can be enjoyed by anyone. NVBS offers a variety of activities which make it both fun and rewarding to learn the techniques of Bonsai.



Workshops provide “hands-on” instruction such as this workshop with Roy Nagatoshi from Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar, CA.



A lecture by Dr. Joe Gutierrez. NVBS programs promote communication of experiences and sharing.

Some of the activities offered are monthly programs to discuss particular topics, such as:

- ◆ How to select tools, soils, fertilizers, pots and trees.
- ◆ Workshops with well-known practitioners from around the country.
- ◆ Beginner Bonsai classes.
- ◆ Tree critiques—to help you plan what to do with your own tree.
- ◆ Organized tree collecting trips.
- ◆ Air layering and grafting.
- ◆ An annual spring show to show your trees.

We welcome opportunities to speak and demonstrate bonsai to local school and garden clubs.