

Columbus Bonsai Society
PO Box 1981
Columbus, OH 43216-1981

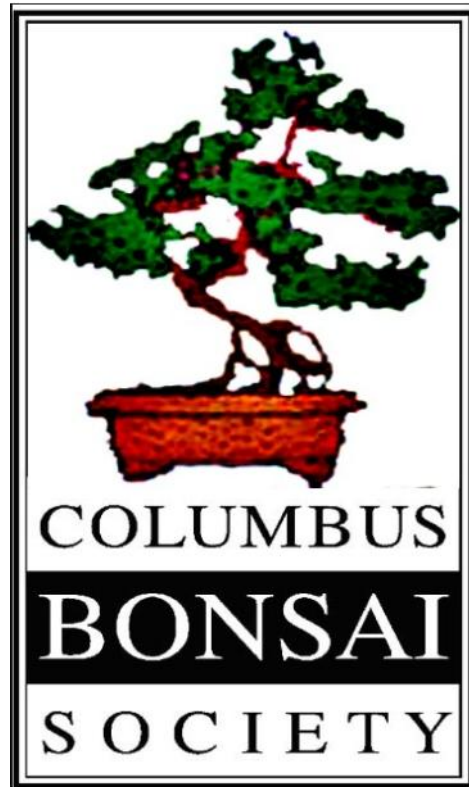
Questions to:

Columbusbonsai@hotmail.com

[HTTP://Columbusbonsai.org](http://Columbusbonsai.org)

Regular Club meetings on
3rd Sunday of the month
Meetings Start at 2:00 pm
All are welcome to attend

CBS Board meets
1st Tuesday of the month
at 6:30 pm



Repotting

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 3/15/15
FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY**

2:00 PM BUSINESS MEETING

2:15 PM PROGRAM BEGINS

March 2015 Newsletter

- President**
Mike Thornhill
- Tree Curator**
Rick Wilson
- Director Emeritus**
José Cueto
- 1st Vice President**
Zack Clayton
- 2nd Vice President**
Denny Sackett
- 1 year Director**
Jack Smith
- 2 year Director**
Mark Passerrello
- 3 year Director**
Ben William
- Treasurer**
Richard Gurevitz
- Secretary**
Sandy Schoenfeld
- Librarian**
Beverlee Wilson
- Web Master**
Amelia Harris
- Newsletter Editor**
Richard Uhrick
- Education**
Tom Holcomb
Mark Passerrello

“A Pinch of this....

Curious about Bonsai?
This fascinating fusion of art and horticulture has a long history and has been taken up all around the world. If you would like to learn more about creating and keeping miniature trees, please contact us. Your hands on knowledge is coming up soon.

APRIL BEGINNER'S CLASS IS FULL!!!!
Registration for our April 11 class stands at 17. Any further applicants will be put on a wait list.
If you are spreading the word about the class, keep this in mind.

The Columbus Bonsai Society is offering a beginner's class Saturday, April 11, 10:00am - 12:00pm in The Gustavus Franklin Cook Building, Room 101, 1200 Eastland Avenue, Columbus, OH 43216. The class will be held in a classroom and discussion phase. The class will begin the process of developing two bonsai. Instructors will discuss many aspects of the art and horticulture of bonsai: including history, design, tools, styling techniques and others. The main focus will be keeping the trees alive.

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Bonsai=Perseverance



Rich Uhrick

**See you on the 15th at
Franklin Park Conservatory**



Columbus Bonsai Society PO Box 1981 Columbus OH 43216-1981

ColumbusBonsai@hotmail.com www.ColumbusBonsai.org



Columbus Bonsai is a proud member of the American Bonsai Society and Bonsai Clubs International.

This Month's Program— March 15—Repotting and Pruning: Time To Put the Snow Shovels Down And Get Back To Work.

Nature permitting and if any of our deciduous trees are ready, we will begin working on repotting. Demonstrations, and plenty of experienced members will be available to assist us all in this all important skill. Whether this is your first tree or your 1000th this is something that is vital to keeping your tree healthy and thriving. Also a note to those who want to repot at the March meeting. Any of you who plan to repot something at the meeting should plan to bring your own soil. Mike Thornhill may have a few small bags available for purchase at the meeting, however, he will not be supplying everyone. It looks like the weather this week will allow us to get any hardy trees out of the ground for repotting this weekend, just remember that they may need extra protection afterwards as we still risk frost and freezing temperatures until May.



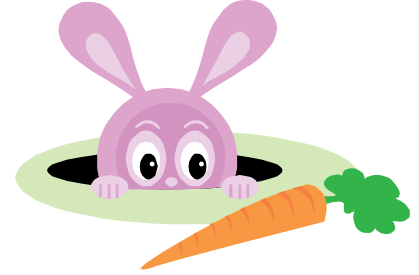
The Columbus Bonsai Society receives meeting space and other support and assistance from Franklin Park Conservatory and Oakland Nurseries

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Rich Uhrick, Editor
Uhrick.richard@gmail.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

SEE PAGE 12 FOR MORE
DATES AND LISTINGS

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT....**THE RABBIT HOLE**

Perhaps this winter is beginning to fade at last. The ten day forecast, if you can believe that sort of thing, is calling for highs in the 50's each day. The lowest temperature I recorded in my backyard this winter was -20°F. My new greenhouse/cold frame (I'm not sure what to call it) performed better than expected. Over the entire course of the winter I was below freezing only occasionally at night and had a one week stretch where my trees stayed frozen. During that one week frozen stretch I recorded my coldest temperature of 10°F. My goal with the greenhouse was to "move" my trees to Tennessee for the winter. While the construction and heating of the greenhouse will be a topic for another article in the coming months. At this time I will mention that the cost of heating the greenhouse with an automatic 1000 watt heater was approximately \$30 a month. I found this to be lower than expected and quite a pleasant surprise.

With my greenhouse, spring has arrived in my back yard. I can regulate daytime highs in the 70's and keep my trees from freezing at night. So, when my trees begin to wake up in the next few weeks I can begin my repotting season. I mention repotting now because repotting is the topic for the March club meeting. I know it may seem early to speak of repotting while some of us still have trees frozen to the ground. However, Mother Nature can be unpredictable at times and a warm spring may leave you scrambling without proper planning. I am planning on bringing the club's entire inventory of pots, tools, and wire to the club meeting. You should be looking at your supplies now and planning on your needs for the coming work season. In addition to the normal great bargains that the club offers there will be some recently marked down "clearance" items available. The recent pot and tool orders have also arrived and improved the selection available.

I will close with a mention of our April program featuring quest artist Rodney Clemons. The club will be offering a split session with Rodney featuring a BYOT boxwood workshop in the morning. The cost of the workshop will be determined prior to the start of sign-ups at the March meeting. If anyone is interested in attending the workshop and is in need of boxwood please let me know. I am planning on a trip to Ken Huth's nursery prior to the workshop and he has "Morris Midget" boxwood available for \$20 each. I can arrange to bring trees back from Ken's for anyone who is interested.

That's all for now, I hope to see you all at the March meeting.



Mike

HOW DO I CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER?

A: HERE'S HOW: BOARD MEMBER CONTACT LIST

President

Mike Thornhill cfdmike@aol.com

Director Emeritus

José Cueto jrcueto@hotmail.com

1st Vice President

Zack Clayton zclayton@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President

Denny Sackett sackeka@wowway.com

1 year Director

Jack Smith jsmith4753@aol.com

2 year Director

Mark Passerello mpasserello@rocketmail.com

3 year Director

Ben William bensonkwilliam@gmail.com

Treasurer

Richard Gurevitz rgurevitz@aol.com

Secretary

Sandy Schoenfeld slschoenfeld7@yahoo.com

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Richard Uhrick Uhrick.richard@gmail.com

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Tom Holcomb tholcomb@columbus.rr.com

Mark Passerello mpasserello@rocketmail.com

Tree Curator

Rick Wilson rickwilson134@gmail.com

FROM THE CBS CARE GUIDE

USDA Hardiness Zones 5-6 (5 Northern Ohio, 6 Southern Ohio)

March - Early Spring - 50/31

- Repot deciduous trees if their buds are starting to swell. If you wait until the leaves have emerged, you will need to take more care to keep the tree out of direct sunlight and wind.
- Be sure to check wire from last year. The spring's growth will cause tight wire to cut into the tree. Remove any that is tight. This should be done year round as well. If the branch did not hold its shape, reapply wire.
- You can wire branches on all trees, but be careful of buds and swelling branches caused by growth.
- Grafting is possible on most trees now through spring.
- You may bring hardy trees out of winter protection now, as most can handle temperature above 20°F.
- This is an ideal time to take hardwood cuttings from deciduous trees.

BOOK OF THE MONTH—BONSAI: Techniques, Styles, Display Ideas

By Peter Warren

Impressive at first glance and even better with each subsequent perusal, this authoritative volume has the makings of a definitive reference for a new bonsai hobbyist. Similar in format to Harry Tomlinson's *The Complete Book of Bonsai*, and reminiscent of Herb Gustafson's intro books, this particular book is heavy on images, which is the modern trend, but text is specific with facts and directions when needed.

I had not heard of Peter Warren before reading this book, and the jacket bio blurb is short and modest. Web investigation reveals that he spent 6 years in Japan, studying there with Kunio Kobiyashi. Interestingly, he is credited as both "an author and translator, featured regularly on the radio and television and is a well known face in the Japanese bonsai community". I have no knowledge, first hand or otherwise, of the Japanese media, but if Warren was a regular feature, he must be very impressive indeed for them to accept him as an expert.

DK Publishing based in Britain, lend a geographic bent to the text, and care recommendations. William Valavanis, credited as U.S. consult, and his influence in the obligatory care guide organized by species is apparent. This volume obviously aimed at the widest possible market; is reflective of the fact that bonsai is an international pursuit. The wide focus is evident in the obligatory feature all books such as this have: a run down on possible species for bonsai complete with care information and photos.

Grouped by tree type the species guide though not exhaustive means to give a good idea of the wide choices available for bonsai material. I was interested to see Tamarind and Lipstick Ficus in the "Local Heroes" section, recognition that where ever you are in the world there are local plants that will make great bonsai as these tropicals emphasize. Also in this section is Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) a.k.a "sloe". Warren is one of several English bonsai authorities who write enthusiastically about this thorny shrub native to

the British isles, praising its hardiness, three season interest and styling possibilities. I keep my eyes open when ever I am at a nursery looking for one.

Leafing through this tree section (pun intended) many of the images are familiar. There must be a spirit of cooperation among bonsai writers, because I recognize Harry Tomlinson's majestic English Oak featured in his own book, a *Sageritia* and Japanese Maple by Peter Chan and a California Juniper and spectacular Coast redwood from Ryan Neil.

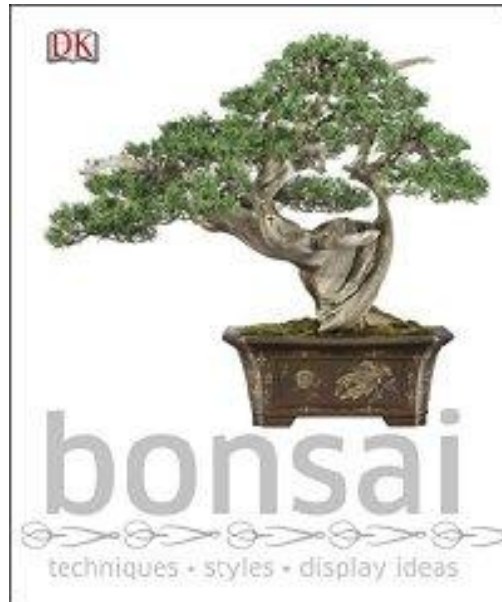
Sandwiched on either side of this rogue's gallery are a section on bonsai basics and on bonsai creation and styling. Warren's coverage of bonsai

history and design is compact and accessible. The way he covers pots and pot selection gives some real, solid advice for a subject that can be very esoteric. Surprisingly there is a page about soil ingredients and that's all the coverage potting mixes get. Soil mechanics can be an admittedly difficult and mystifying subject for the casual enthusiast, but only covering the 'what' of soil and leaving out 'how' and 'why' seems like short changing the topic.

Warren breaks down styling and bonsai creation into projects.

This is a smart way to cover these ideas, ideal for a new bonsai hobbyist who has no other instruction or guidance. Simple projects like styling a garden center juniper progress to rock plantings, forests and bonsai from seed and collected material. Each project has step by step photos which make the processes involved clear for a newbie, and are a great refresher and inspiration for more experienced practitioners.

Warren's book would be a worthwhile addition to a bonsai library and would certainly be the new book of choice to give or recommend to someone just starting his or her bonsai journey.



Mark Passerello

MABA 2015

Hello Bonsai Enthusiasts,

I am sending this e-mail to announce the upcoming MABA 2015 Convention, which is going to be held at the Clarion Waterfront Hotel and Conference Center in Indianapolis Indiana. The convention will take place July 10-12. The headlining artist is Suthin Sukosolvisit. Please visit our website, www.maba2015.com for the latest information. We currently have the visiting artists and vendors listed on the website. The complete schedule, list of workshops and demos, along with the registration form will be available on the website by mid January. Please check the website for the latest updates. Also, we will email periodic updates and information to the MABA clubs as we lead up to the convention, so please let me know if this email is going to the correct contact person for each club.

Thanks,

Scott Yelich, President
Indianapolis Bonsai Club



TOPIC OF THE MONTH: REPOTTING

Repotting your bonsai is the key to keeping your trees healthy and growing. Last year you watered and fertilized your trees. All year long, they put on new growth not only above the pot line but below the soil as well. Did you notice that some of your pots are not draining quickly as they did when you first bought the plant, or after the last time you repotted it? Did some plants also dry out way before the others? If you had the pot down on the ground, did roots start to grow out of the bottom of the pot? These are signs that you need to repot that plant!

What do you need to repot your tree? First decide, is it going back into the same pot? You may be happy with the size of the tree, and want to maintain it at the size it is. If the pot is the right size, color and shape and it has not cracked, plan to put the tree back into the same pot. If not, then you can prepare the new pot you've selected by putting screen over the weep holes and running tie down wires through to tie down your tree when its placed in the new pot. If you are using the old pot, have screens at the ready and four lengths of wire suitable to tie down your tree once you have it positioned in the pot.

Even before you remove the tree from the pot it's growing in, study it. Do you want to fine tune where the front is? Is it at the correct angle, or does it need to change? Sometimes you will discover that the tree has shifted and is leaning more than it did when you last potted it. I have also found that roots may have caused the tree to rise up out of the pot, or soil loss has caused it to sink down lower. In the throws of repotting you may forget, so do not be afraid to make notes.

Are you now ready to take your tree out of its old pot? Do you have an adequate supply of soil mixed and ready? Do you have wire cutters and the scissors you use to root prune at hand? Since this may take awhile, the experts recommend keeping a bottle mister to prevent the hair roots from drying, at hand. You will need tools to rake out the roots too. This may range from a root rake, to a root hook, a big gutter nail, or chop sticks. I keep a packet of mycorrhiza on hand too, its beneficial fungus spores. At home, you may use a high-pressure hose to wash the old soil from the roots of some trees. If the tree is in some sort of clayey field soil, this may be the only way to expose the roots. If you're starting root over rock, bring a selection of rocks, muck, raffia and a pot that can be cut down to expose the roots.)

OK, now you are ready to cut the old wires holding the tree into its pot. You may need to run a knife of the end of your root rake around the inside edge of the pot to free it up. When you pull the tree out, do not forget to look at the health of the roots. Hopefully you will not find rot or a colony of bugs. Either one damages the health of your tree. You may also use this time to get rid of any weeds. Do you have a lot of root cutting to do? As you start to rake the roots out, pay attention to your surface roots. Do they radiate out on all sides of the tree in places where you need them? I have seen roots or small trees grafted in by experts to improve the nebari/buttress. Would the tree look better if you removed the one root that has always been too high on the trunk? If your tree is going back in the same pot, can you cut back the root mass enough to give you clearance for fresh soil all around- including the bottom without taking off so much that you are afraid that not enough root will remain? A healthy tree can probably survive taking 1/3 to 1/2 the roots off, but some species do not like to have their roots messed with. Mist to keep your roots moist as needed.

As you trim the roots, remember they are like branches, look for long thick roots with few feeder hair roots to cut back, you want branching fine hair roots. If your tree was too high in its pot, or you are trying to get it into a shallower pot you may need to work on the base of the trunk to get it down.

Put some soil mix into the bottom of the pot, position your tie down wires then check the depth, your tree angle, and front. Is everything perfect? Pour in some soil to fill in, use your chopstick to work soil between the roots. Just before you finish put your tie down wires in place and tighten them until you tree is tight in the pot so that it does not rock freely. Recheck it position. If it moved, you may need to loosen the wires and add more soil. If you discover that you have selected the wrong pot, put a wet towel around the roots while you prepare a new one. In some years, I find myself playing musical pots, moving one tree to the one I just emptied.

Now before you sit back to admire your work, make sure and water your tree. Apply your moss, and water again. As mentioned at the February meeting a touch of B-1 containing fertilizer will not hurt. The repotted tree will need protecting until it shows new active growth. This means, keep it out of direct sun and block the wind.



Ken Schultz

**REPRINTED FROM THE MARCH 2009
NEWSLETTER**

YEARLY EVENT MAKES BIG DEAL OF TINY TREES

Annual exhibition will highlight more than four decades of bonsai in Columbus.

The beauty of trees in their summer glory will be a high point of the annual Columbus Bonsai Society's annual show. The Bonsai Society is an educational and social organization for those interested in the classic Japanese form of horticulture, and presents a show each year as a means of educating the public about the art form.

This edition of the annual event will take place at the Franklin Park Conservatory & Botanical Garden.

During the two day event club members will display many examples of the miniature trees they have patiently trained and nurtured. Workshops and demonstrations will take place during the show, so participants can get a hands on feel for what is involved in creating a bonsai. Three vendors will be on site and offering a wide range of plant stock, pottery and tools needed for bonsai work.

A demonstration of bonsai care & styling techniques will be given each day of the show. This presentation is open to all and suitable for all audiences-no special knowledge needed. Questions from the audience are welcome.

Admission to the show is free and open to the public, a free will donation will be accepted. The bonsai show will be contained in the lower level, class room areas of the Conservatory. Admission to this specific area is free. The Columbus Bonsai Society encourages those attending the show to enjoy the many displays and exhibits that a paid admission to the Conservatory offers.

Onsite parking is available, and the show venue is served by public transportation.

*A youth scholarship will be presented on Saturday-show attendees 14 and under can register for this package, which includes a membership to the Club and a bonsai tree.

* Interactive demonstrations will be given each day.

*An "Ask an expert" table will be staffed all day, both days of the show

Find the Columbus Bonsai Society and Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Garden on Facebook.

Facts in brief:

What: Columbus Bonsai Society's Annual Show

When: Saturday, July 18th 10:00am-5:00pm and Sunday ,
July 19th 10:00am-4:00pm 2015

Where: Franklin Park Conservatory, 1777 East Broad
Street, Columbus , Ohio 43203



COMING IN APRIL

RODNEY CLEMMONS

FOR 2 SESSIONS



Photo from Rodney's LinkedIn page

Rodney Clemons began his formal training studying with E. Felton Jones, has learned from renown bonsai masters John Naka and Yugi Yoshimura, and is now one of the premier bonsai artists in the southeastern U. S. Known for designing Japanese gardens, in addition to creating award winning Bun-Jin and Windswept bonsai, Rodney excels at developing an entire visual statement; bonsai, rock and water features, and their relationship to each other. A sought-after speaker at U.S. and international bonsai conventions, Rodney brings both humor and a deep love of nature to his teaching. Currently the curator of the collection at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers, GA and the Smith Gilbert Gardens in Kennesaw, GA, Rodney also teaches workshops at his Allgood Bonsai nursery in Atlanta, GA, when he's not on the road instructing, judging or critiquing collections.

--From Brussel's Bonsai Rendezvous 2015 flyer

BONSAI INTENSIVE WITH JOSÉ CUETO 2015

April 11, 18, 25 2015

Bonsai Intensive Study Group – Have you ever looked at a "Specimen Bonsai" and wished you could develop one of your trees into such a masterpiece? Have you ever thought about traveling to another city to take an intensive bonsai course from a bonsai master? **José Cueto** our club's bonsai master has agreed to lead eight students who are interested in improving their bonsai skills by sharing his forty+ years of bonsai experience in this hands-on series of classes. José will share his knowledge in styling and growing bonsai, provide artistic and horticultural guidance; as well as, show and teach special techniques needed to improve your bonsai skills.

Participants may bring the same tree to all the sessions or a different tree to each session. (Please, only one tree/session) The material you select should be challenging enough to keep you busy the entire session. This may be material that you've owned for some time and are uncertain on how to develop it into a specimen bonsai, or newly acquired material that you would like help styling into a future specimen quality bonsai.

Sessions are scheduled to be held at Franklin Park's Greenhouse on three consecutive Saturdays from 1 PM until 4 PM (April 11, 18, 25). **The fee has been set at \$110**, or for those willing to share a slot \$40 per person. Class size is limited to the first eight **paid** participants. Class size is limited so that José can ensure that each student receives individual attention.

Participants are expected to provide their own tree, tools, wire, soil, pots.

From the Circulation Desk of the C.B.S. Library

New – Keyword Search and DVD & CD List - New *

The CBS Library Materials List is available on our CBS website's Library Tab.
Sort, Filter and Search or Download the list.

Click the link to Email the librarian CBSLibrary@hotmail.com to request materials. The librarians will bring the Materials to the Monthly Meeting.

The Booklist has been updated with a Keyword Column to help you search.

Scroll to the bottom to select the DVD & CD Tab

Magazines are not included on the Website

CBS Subscribes to 3 Quarterly Magazines. These are also available to be checked out

Bonsai Focus: <http://www.bonsaifocus.com/>

Bonsai & Stone Appreciation: <http://www.bonsai-bci.com/>

American Bonsai Society: <http://www.absbonsai.org/>

Check out the Magazine Websites for Forums, Videos, Tips & Techniques, Care Guides, Helpful Links, Seminars, Bonsai Societies, Supplies and Nurseries.

If you are unable to attend the Monthly CBS Meeting/Workshop you can still check out materials...Contact The Librarians - via the Email at CBSLibrary@hotmail.com

Identify the materials you want to check out. Coordinate with the Librarians for a time to meet at the Oakland Park Nursery to check out the materials or if Oakland Park Nursery is not convenient, suggest another meeting location. We will make every reasonable effort to connect with you.

The Librarians.....

Librarian: Beverlee Wilson - H: 740-548-4857 Cell: 614-361-4943

Asst. Librarian: John Young

CBSLibrary@hotmail.com



P. O. Box 1981
Columbus, Ohio
43216-1981

www.columbusbonsai.org

Columbus Bonsai Society Membership Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ -- _____ Date: ____/____/____

Email: _____

Membership: Individual \$25.00 Family \$35.00

Check # _____

May your phone number be included in our members list? Y N

IF family membership, please list other members: _____

Memberships may be paid for more than one year at a time.

Bonsai Here and Beyond the Outer belt

Unless otherwise noted, The Columbus Bonsai Society meets the third Sunday of every month at 2:00 pm . Board Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The board meetings are open to members.

2015

[In the planning Stages—Watch for updates]

MAR 15	REPOTTING — FPC
APR 11	BONSAI BEGINNER'S CLASS—OAKLAND CLASS IS FULL
APR 11	BONSAI INTENSIVE—FPC GREENHOUSE
APR 18	BONSAI INTENSIVE—FPC GREENHOUSE
APR 19	RODNEY CLEMMONS (Morning and Afternoon sessions) — FPC
APR 25	BONSAI INTENSIVE—FPC GREENHOUSE
MAY 17	TBD—FPC
JUN TBD	TBD— FPC
JUL 18-19	ANNUAL BONSAI SHOW —CBS 2015—FPC
AUG 16	TBD—FPC
SEP 20	ANNUAL PICNIC AND MEMBER SALE—OAKLAND
OCT 18	TBD—FPC
NOV 15	TBD—FPC
DEC	ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER

**FPC= FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY
OAKLAND= OAKLAND NURSERY, COLUMBUS LOCATION**