

Dave Glazewski

Workshops with the ogre

April 23 (good stabbing opera broadcast)

May 14 (better axe murder opera broadcast)

Conditions will be as usual: buggy, too hot, too cold, raining, snowing, and plagued with squirrels.

10 AM to 5 PM - bring your own everything, including tribute for the ogre.

The usual \$50 fee is charged. Reservations are required as the sessions are limited to 6, sentient, reasonably cheerful bodies.

Iguanas and cats allowed as non-participants.

- The ogre

These upcoming workshop emails from Nick Lenz were some of the emails I most looked forward to getting. "The ogre" thing has always made me smile. He was the exact opposite. He was nothing but kind and generous with his time to newbies like I was when I first went up there and more experienced than I.

If you did have an idea about a tree that he didn't agree with, the worst thing that might happen is he'd ask a question about the offending branch that would make you laugh and get rid of it at the same time.

I brought a newly collected apple tree to him many years ago. Last Spring I set it in front of him and he did that thing he did with this finger following the motion of the branches from the base to the top, much like a conductor with an orchestra. Because all Nick trees had motion and music in them. He told me there wasn't anything that needed to be done with it and to grab something else (first time ever).

This Spring I decided that I'd enter that same tree into my first real show and send him a photo. I was sure would get some wise ass reply from him. Then on my arrival to the show, I got the word that he had passed away that morning.

I had worried that I wouldn't get this tree to flower in time. However, on Saturday morning I got my first flower. It would be nice to think that Nick had a hand in that. But I'm thinking that if there was such a power as that, he would have been behind the aphid that was found sucking on a shriveled up leaf right before the critiques of the trees. Kris Springer said it could have been both - and I agree with that.

He was one of a kind and will be missed by many.