

February
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Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



From our President

Greetings Friends,

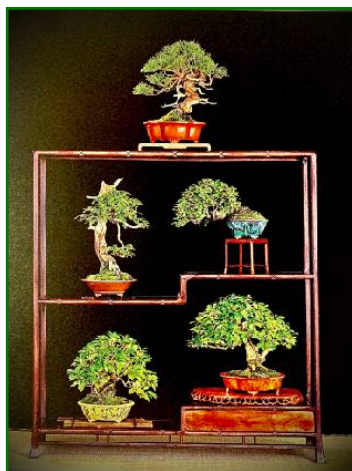
First order of business is to thank Harvey Carapella for his excellent presentation. We are so fortunate to have someone to present Artistic Principles that we can integrate to our Bonsai practice, well done! I don't know about you but I am ready for spring and spending quality time with my trees again!

We still have a little time and now is a great time to make spring plans for what needs attention repotting and when, prioritize if you can. Also prime pot shopping too.

Last month I announced our new Shohin Bonsai Study Group Leader Toby Ziegler and this month we resume with an afternoon Shohin Display workshop with John Romano! Our Suiseki Study Group is also looking to follow up on last years progress and I have spoken to Sean Smith and will discuss program options when he returns from a month long study at S- Cube with Seiji Morimae.

As we start this year please consider how you can help YOUR CLUB. We have very talented members so please give some thought to how you can best make OUR Society the best it can be!

Mark



Next Meeting

**Tuesday, February 25, 2025
at 7:00 pm**

John Romano, Literati Bonsai

It has been several years since John Romano has joined us to share his expertise. John teaches out of New England Bonsai Conservatory, so we are looking forward to this presentation. John will present on Literati Bonsai, and will do a demonstration using a Pitch Pine, which will be raffled off. You won't want to miss this opportunity. In addition, in the afternoon, John will lead a workshop on display of Shohin Bonsai, from 1 - 4. This is a no fee workshop, but it would be helpful if you can sign up so we can plan seating, tables, etc. Please send a note to Marti Macinski: mmacinski@mac.com, if you plan to attend the workshop. If you attend, please bring 1 - 3 Shohin Bonsai to be used in the workshop.

Club members are welcome to bring a Literati Bonsai to display. The Shohin Study Group will have a display from the afternoon workshop for study, for those who can't attend the workshop.

Buckland Lodge at Brighton Town Park

Our Refreshment Manager, Marti Macinski will provide coffee, and individual drinks. Please start the new year right and email Marti at mmacinski@mac.com to let he know you will bring something.

And, let's keep the silent auction going as it's proving to be a good fundraiser. Small items, under \$50, all proceeds to club, you set minimum bid.

2025 Programs:

- February 25 - 7 pm Literati Bonsai, John Romano,
6 pm Shohin study group, no need to register
1 - 4 pm, workshop on Shohin Bonsai Display,
led by John Romano *see above to register and what to bring*
 - See dates with more info on page 4
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Last year saw the resurgence of our Club's Suiseki Study group, led by Les Allen with help from Bob Blankfield and Tom Macinski. Look for more info on this study group in the next Billboard. For now, enjoy these pictures of some very special Suiseki, and think about how you can become more involved in this Study Group.



Sean Smith Suiseki display at 2023 8th US National Bonsai Exhibition



Mark Arpag's New Zealand Island Stone displayed in an antique bronze Doban with and on a table designed by him and crafted by Bob Blankfield



Figure Stone in hand carved Daiza by Bob Blankfield displayed at the 8th US National Bonsai Exhibition

January meeting - Harvey Carapella wows us!



Many, many, many thanks to Harvey Carapella for an outstanding program (as always). We are so fortunate to have Harvey's incredible artistry and expertise available to us. The program was informative, entertaining and everyone stayed until the end, which just doesn't happen often. Thank you so much, Harvey Carapella, for all you do for our club.



Bonsai events to know about

Every year, Bill, Mark and many others find it difficult to stay home, and go trekking across the country in search of additional Bonsai knowledge and camaraderie. Going to other club events and exhibitions is an excellent way to learn something new, gain a new perspective and meet like minded Bonsai folks.

There will be more info coming each month, but for now, here are some things to put on your calendar.

- Mid Atlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival April 11 - 13, 2025
Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey, 604 Station Rd., Grantville, PA 17028
For info: midatlanticbonsai.org
- American Bonsai Society Learning Seminars September 12 and 13, 2025
In Association with the 9th US National Bonsai Exhibition
Double Tree, Jefferson Road, Rochester, NY
- 9th US National Bonsai Exhibition September 13 and 14, 2025
Total Sports Experience, East Rochester, NY

All of these events offer incredible opportunities to learn, purchase, network and more.

2025 Dues Renewal Notice and Membership News

Membership dues for the 2025 calendar year are now due. And while many folks paid at the January meeting, we are still missing a few. Please send your check now to keep your name on our membership list and to continue receiving the Billboard and other membership news.

Our current policy states that annual membership dues are due during the month of January, therefore not later than 1/31/2025 for membership through the end of 2025.

Annual dues are now \$50, both for an individual and for a family.

Please note that all news and announcements, including the Billboard, are provided only via email. If you have questions about your membership, please send those questions to: diane.koretz@gmail.com

Thank you, Diane Koretz, Treasurer Please make payable to and mail your check the address below.

BSUNY Dues and Membership form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Bonsai Society of Upstate NY, Inc

PO Box 92215, Rochester, NY 14692

Membership \$50.00

SHOHIN BONSAI FEATURE OF THE MONTH



Shohin Bonsai, Variety: Japanese Holly

A powerful little Groom style tree with a powerful heavy trunk. It is a Broom style, because all the upper branches are growing from the upper portion of the trunk. It has a rounded top, it could also be triangular, square or oval top. The Red berries are the Focal Point and in Spring the White flowers will be the Focal point. The moss is a little too thick and is hiding the surface roots, although allowing the moss to cover the surface roots is a way to grow them heavier. You should only do this during the growing season, not through the Winter storage. The bright Blue pot with the bright Red berries creates a contrast of Light and Dark. If it were a bright Green pot it would be a Direct Complimentary color combination with an unusual dramatic contrast.

Harvey Carapella

Shohin Study Group is alive again!

Many, many, many thanks to Toby Ziegler for stepping up to organize and lead the Shohin Study group. We will start with this coming meeting. At 6 pm, before the meeting, join Toby and others at the Buckland Lodge to talk about Shohin Bonsai.

Billboard is brought to you by:

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Harvey Carapella

Please submit any ideas for the Billboard to Marti & Tom. If you have ideas for the Billboard, please email Marti & Tom:
mmacinski@mac.com

2025 Program dates:

- March 25 - 7 pm, Surprise, Bill Valavanis
 - April 22 - 7 pm TBD
 - May 17 & 18 - two days!, Club Show
 - June 24 - 6 pm, Club picnic and Auction
 - July 22 - 6 pm, Field Trip, Oriental Garden Supply
 - August 26, 7 pm, Bring your own tree
 - September 15 - 7 pm, TBD, speaker from the US National Exhibition. *Note the date change to fit with the schedule of the US National.*
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