

May
2024

Volume 55
Number 5

Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



President's Message

Greeting Friends,

April has flown by due to all the Bonsai work we achieved but with more to go there is no time to slow down. Suthin was in town and we were treated to an opportunity to learn from a brilliant Artist. For me, his ability to quickly and effectively reduce a tree to its best self is inspiring, he is a Master editor! This month is our 51st Annual Bonsai Exhibition and is a core of our mission to share the beauty of our Bonsai with family, friends, business associates and the greater community as well as. Once again we are offering half price tickets to you so you can share the love and perhaps introduce Bonsai to others for the first time. Remember that you work hard to create beautiful trees and this show is your opportunity to enjoy, appreciate and share and that is your reward for your dedication! Please put your best efforts forward and prepare at least one tree for display.

The humblest of Bonsai that have a clean pot, fresh green moss neatly applied and have been cleaned of dead leaves or needles show the respect that is required. Please consider how you will present your tree and if you are unsure please ask one of our board members.

We also have posters and half price tickets available at International Bonsai Arboretum. Please help and pick some up today!

Mark



Japanese Five Needle Pine
with Chojubai Dwarf
Japanese Quince



Poetic Pine Clump
Bill Valavanis

CLUB SHOW!!!

YOUR club show is almost here. What does that mean?

- First, help spread the word - posters are available. One will be attached to the email forwarding this Billboard, and you can pick up more from Bill.
- Next, plan to help set up on Saturday, May 20 from 4:30- 7 pm. We need everyone to make this work well and go quickly.
- Then, bring your tree(s) to set up to participate in the show.
- Help staff the show from 9 - 5 on Sunday. There are many opportunities to guide folks around, answer questions about the club, and more.
- Finally, invite your friends to the show. They will want to see all the trees, AND there will be many vendors with trees, pots, bonsai related items - everything they need to help them get started in Bonsai!

Golisano Autism Center
50 Science Parkway
Rochester, NY 14620

We will have coffee and donuts in the morning, and pizza for lunch (courtesy of Theresa's Cardone's. As always, If you are willing to bring something to share, please email Marti Macinski at mmacinski@mac.com.

2024 Programs:

- May 19 - 9 - 5 Club Show at Golisano Autism Center
- May 18 & 19 - IBA Spring Open House
- June 11 7 pm - Corin Tomlinson NOTE: Special Meeting, with afternoon workshop at IBA
- June 15 - 1 pm Suiseki Study Group
- June 25 - 6:30 pm Club Picnic & Auction
see page 4 for more dates for 2024

Spring programs - Great information, and more to come!



April featured well known bonsai artist Suthin Sukosolvisit. The afternoon workshop was quite intense, with everyone enjoying Suthin's expertise and good advice. In the evening, Suthin entertained us with a demonstration. His comments were very enlightening, and helped many of us focus on improvements to our trees. We were sorry to see Suthin go, and hope to bring him back again soon.



May brings our Club show at the Golisano Autism Center. You should be putting the finishing touches on your trees, and see below for more to know and how to help promote the show.

In June we have a surprise pop up meeting. Corin Tomlinson happens to be "in the neighborhood" for a workshop with Sean Smith. We're highjacking him and bringing him back for a special June meeting on the 4th/11th. He'll do a presentation and demo, and will also offer a workshop in the afternoon. This is a special treat. Don't delay in reserving your spot in the workshop. There are still spots available - send your registration and check for \$75 to treasurer Diane Koretz. diane.koretz@gmail.com for registration, and check mailed to BSUNY, PO Box 92215, Rochester, NY 14692.

Here's what to know about our upcoming Club Show

First and foremost: get at least one tree ready to display in the show. If you have questions about whether your tree is ready, please reach out to Mark Arpag: bsunypresident@gmail.com or to Bill Valavanis: wrv@internationalbonsai.com. We want every club member to bring a tree to display.

Second: help us promote the show. You can put up the poster in highly visible locations - get them from Bill. And you can buy and sell tickets to the show - see below.

Third: plan to come on Saturday May 18 from 4:30 - 7 to bring your tree(s) and help set up the show. We need everyone there to help get the show set up quickly.

Fourth: come to the show on Sunday, May 19, starting at 9. We need a few people at 8 to help with finishing touches - please let us know if you are available. Then, during the show, Club members will help guide visitors and answer questions about Bonsai. The Show will close at 5, and we need a dozen people to help pack up and put things away. Again, please let us know if you can help with this.

Fifth: buy tickets for the show, at half price (ten tickets for \$35.00). They you can give them to your friends and family, or you can sell them at full price (\$7.00 each.) If you want a pack of 10 tickets, send an email to Marti: mmacinski@mac.com or Treasurer Diane Koretz: diane.koretz@gmail.com. We'll get packets of tickets ready for pickup at Bill Valavanis' International Bonsai Arboretum. Your check for \$35.00, payable to BSUNY, can go to Diane Koretz, BSUNY, PO Box 92215, Rochester, NY 14692.

Start thinking about the Club Picnic

Our club picnic in June is a great opportunity - for many reasons.

- Clean out your extras - pots, seedlings, duplicate trees, books, magazines and more (all Bonsai related, please). You can auction them off, and either donate all the proceeds to the Club, or the club will keep 20% and send you a check for the rest.
- Show up with your checkbooks and cash, and bid early and often. Another club member's trash can become your treasure, and your purchases support the club.
- Come at 6 for the picnic, and enjoy some social time with fellow club members.
- Bring a dish to pass.

Suiseki Study Group - lots more to come

The first Suiseki Study Group meeting was very productive. See the "Teaching Stone" below. Club members interested in Suiseki met at Bob Blankfield's home to talk about Suiseki. This was an intense discussion, lasting almost 3 hours, Much more in depth than we were able to do when we tried to have study groups before our regular meeting. We will continue this format.

See the list of dates for more Suiseki Study Groups this year - put them on your calendar and make plans to join the group.

The June meeting will be on June 15 at 1 pm, and will include a general discussion of Suiseki. AND, we will also plan our Suiseki Exhibit an the September International Bonsai Arboretum Open House.

Saturday June 15 1 pm - Topic above, location International Bonsai Arboretum

Saturday August 17 9 am - Tanseki walk in previous location which will be supplied when you sign up. Followed by lunch (dutch treat) and discussion. Email sign up will be announced in July

Saturday & Sunday September 7 & 8. Suiseki exhibit by club members at International Bonsai Arboretum Open House

Tuesday, October 22 7 pm - Club meeting, Study group exhibition and presentation on collecting by Les Allen

SUISEKI CORNER



"Teaching Stone" from the Suiseki Study Group Meeting displayed in an antique bronze Doban.

Lots of places to go for Bonsai

Throughout the year, Bill, Mark and others from our club go to various Bonsai Shows, meetings and private workshop events. We'll try to list these on a regular basis so you can decide if one of these events is good for you.

ABS Learning Seminar - May 9 - 11, Grand Rapids, Michigan (Bill is on his way there)

Midwest Bonsai Show - August 17 - 18, Chicago Botanic Garden

Sean Smith, Three Mountain Bonsai Studio June 7 - 9, featuring Corin Tomlinson (who is then our speaker on Tuesday, June 11)

Jim Doyle, Nature's Way Bonsai Studio June 8 - collected material workshop with our own Mark Arpag

Winter Silhouette Bonsai Show Dec 7 - 8 Kannapolis MD

SHOHIN BONSAI FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Shohin Bonsai: Focal Points

A big part of my Shohin bonsai comments has been pointing out the Focal Point, this is not a bonsai concept, but has been a major part of Composition in the art world forever. It is one of many elements of good design from the art world that I like to apply to bonsai. It may not always be obvious to the untrained eye or not a consciously planned element for many bonsai artists to use. This Princess Persimmon actually has three strong potential Focal Points, but only one obvious one. The fantastic hand painted pot, the incredible twisting knotted trunk and the Persimmon fruit. Hopefully you have been paying careful attention to my bonsai comments and know it is the fruit. The fruit is demanding more attention than the pot or trunk. The massive number of fruit and the bright Orange color of the fruit is a Direct Complimentary color combination with the Blue pot. Again, if you paid attention, you know that Direct Complimentary colors creates a lot of the dramatic Focal Points in our Bonsai. All three strong elements in this tree makes it one of the most outstanding Princess Persimmons I have seen.

Harvey Carapella



BSUNY Community Outreach

A quick reminder that we have a “user-friendly” presentation available for any BSUNY member to provide a talk at garden clubs, nature-oriented organizations, or any interested group. This past October, the Osher group at RIT received a bonsai presentation and presently, we have talks lined up for the Henrietta Garden Club in April, and the Geneseo Garden Club in October. If you know of any organization that might be interested in hearing about bonsai, please let John Wiessinger know at

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

2024 Program dates:

- July 23 - 7 pm Field Trip TBD
- August 17 - 9 am Tanseki walk
- August 27 - 7 pm Bring your own Tree
- September 7 & 8 - IBA Fall Open House with Suiseki exhibit by club members
- September 24 - 7 pm TBD
- October 22 - 7 pm Suiseki Study Group Exhibition and presentation on collecting by Les Allen