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Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



From our President

Greetings Friends,
Once again time has flown by and we find ourselves preparing our trees for winter. It is a busy time cleaning and beginning to put trees away but Bill and I added a few more things to increase the degree of difficulty including traveling to the Pacific Bonsai Expo. When Bill returns from Japan we leave for the Winter Silhouette in North Carolina. But everyone is invited to this month's meeting dubbed the "Design Studio". This gives you an opportunity to get ideas on moving your Bonsai to the next level and becoming the tree you hoped it would be! People around the country pay for this kind of experience but you are free to bring up to 3 trees and we will do our best to get to them all! I would like to thank Les, Tom and Bob B for doing a great job with the Suiseki program last month! We promise to keep Suiseki coming your way this year.

It is not too early to start thinking about gifts for our Club Christmas Party, it is not only a lot of fun but raises much needed funds for YOUR Bonsai Club so please be generous! This also the Season we remind ourselves of all we are grateful for. Please remember how much Joy and Peace our trees bring us too and I am Thankful for ALL of you!

Mark



Next Meeting

**Tuesday, November 26
at 7:00 pm
Critique and Design Studio,
led by Mark Arpag with Jim Dolce and
Alan Adair**

This meeting is a wonderful opportunity to get some insight and a fresh look at your trees. Let our experts help you - they will offer artistic direction, creative guidance, constructive criticism, design counsel, general enlightenment, hints, tips and pointers, all to help you think about the short and long term design of your tree(s). If you participated last year and have a "before" picture of that tree, please bring it, along with the tree as you have followed the advice you received. Bring another tree this year, and please take a before picture, and then we'll ask you to show us how the tree develops over the year. Perhaps you want to think about a tree you would like to include in our upcoming Club Show in May - now is the time to get that tree on the right path.

Also note on page 2 in this Billboard, more details about our new silent auction plan. Bring your donations and bring your checkbook.

Buckland Lodge at Brighton Town Park

Our Refreshment Manager, Marti Macinski will provide snacks, coffee, and individual drinks. If you are willing to bring something to share, please email Marti at mmacinski@mac.com.

2024 Programs:

- November 26 - 7 pm Critique and Design Studio
- December 17th - 6 pm, Holiday party and Club Auction

See more dates and info on page 4.

New Fundraising effort at Club meetings - Third time! And a heads up to prepare for the Holiday Party Auction

We tried the idea of a silent auction at each meeting, and our first efforts in September and October were successful, raising just about \$100 at each meeting for the club. So let's do it again.

How will this work??

Bring your small items (value less than \$50) and set them up on perimeter tables. We will have bid sheets and you can list the item and the minimum bid you are willing to accept. Keep in mind, the sale price will go to the club, but we still want to have minimum bids so people have to invest something. If the minimum bid is not met, you will take the item home.

Bids will be open from the beginning of the meeting until the break, and then the final price will be called and the purchaser will pay the club. We are hoping this will supplement the raffle as a fundraiser. While the raffle raises money for the club, there is usually a cost involved for the raffle tree, so the net to the club is not as much as it appears.

And don't forget to start thinking about the Holiday Party and Auction, see more on next page.

Hungerford Exhibit in December - looking for help!

Hungerford Exhibit - On the first Friday in December (Dec 6), in the evening.

This is the last call, and we're hoping one or two more folks will come out. Jason Henderberg has volunteered to help, and we're hoping to get another few folks to bring trees, help set up and "work" the event to reach out to folks who are interested.

I'm coordinating the Hungerford Exhibit coming up this December and since I'll be a "newbie" to this affair, I'd love to have one or two local club members work with me on this event. As I understand it, an assortment of bonsai will be assembled for the exhibit and we'll be in attendance to answer questions and promote our club. This sounds like a great way to share our love of bonsai with the Rochester community. Please let me know if you can help with tree transportation and/or attendance at the Friday, December 6 event.

John Wiessinger
natureetours@gmail.com

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 list these on a regular basis so you can decide if you should join in the fun.

Winter Silhouette Bonsai Show Dec 7 - 8 Kannapolis NC
www.winterbonsai.net

Shohin Bonsai Seminar - January 30 - Feb 1, Santanella, CA
www.calshohin.org



Pacific Rim Bonsai preparations

Upcoming Annual Holiday Party and Auction

Mark your calendars for December 17. Our annual Holiday Party and Auction is a fun get together and a chance to socialize a bit. It is also a wonderful fundraiser for our club. Clean out your shelves now, and bring your extra/unused/duplicate pots, tools and more. Trees are also welcome. Wrap your items so we have a surprise factor, but no gag gifts please. Most importantly, bring your cash, checkbooks and cards and plan to do some holiday shopping.

All of our expenses are increasing, and this fundraiser keeps us in funds to offer our members excellent programming throughout the year. And we are very fortunate that our members do not charge when they lead our programs, so we save lots of money to be able to offer "out of town experts".

In the December Billboard we will list the new members who have joined this year. Please study the list and be ready to welcome these folks and help them to get some good deals at the auction.

October Suiseki program - great success



Les Allen provided us with a wonderful program on suiseki, offering insights on what makes a quality stone as well as tips on how and where to collect stones. Bob Blankfield and Tom Macinski, members of the suiseki study group also helped. Several members brought some stones to display.



Les donated two stones for the silent auction, and the bidding was fast and furious. Les also brought many small stones from the Gobi desert. Thank you Les!



SHOHIN BONSAI FEATURE OF THE MONTH



Shohin Bonsai: Variety of Different Features as Focal Points

Trees #1 and #2 don't have impressive trunks, but the Maple, tree #1, does have a wild natural open feeling, which for some is an appealing look. The Quince, tree #2 has the variegated flowers and especially the plump buds, which is its appealing feature. Trees 3 and 4 do have more impressive trunks, but not good secondary branching. The Crab Apple, tree #3 does have its appealing clump of white flowers. The Pyracantha, tree #4 does have an impressive curving trunk, but the small White flowers in Spring and Red berries in Fall are its appealing features. Also, remember you always have the unusual and exciting containers, which could be the Focal Point feature for some trees.

Harvey Carapella



Shohin Study Group

Mark Arpag, Harvey Carapella, and Bill Valavanis will be working to re-invigorate a Shohin Study Group. Like the Suiseki Study Group, this would be a series of separate meetings to more closely focus on Shohin Bonsai. If you are interested in participating (and perhaps helping to plan), please reach out to Mark, Harvey or Bill.

Billboard is brought to you by:

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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 - 2025 Program dates:

- January 28 - 7 pm Balance, Color and Perspective in Bonsai, Harvey Carapella
- February 25 - 7 pm, John Romano TBD
- March 25 - 7 pm, Surprise, Bill Valavanis
- April 22 - 7 pm TBD
- May 18 - all day, 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