



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

November, 2005 Newsletter

Next Meeting : 7:00 pm Tuesday, November 15th at the Arboretum.

(NOTE: 3rd Tuesday due to Election Day)

October Meeting Highlights:

We were fortunate to have Walter Pall as a guest lecturer at our October meeting. Many members brought trees for evaluation and discussion. Walter discussed the state of Bonsai in Europe and gave us some insight into the differences between European practitioners of our hobby and ourselves here in America. It was very enlightening...

It seems that we lack the drive of our European counterparts and don't seem to throw ourselves into creativity and innovation as they do. With the Europeans, it's all about the competition and the desire to excel. We, on the other hand, are much more laid back.

Walter discussed the differences between traditional Japanese design and the newer thinking that is prevalent in Europe today. Following this, he gave a critique of the trees that were brought in by our members. Those of you who were not in attendance missed a great opportunity... Walter's bonsai collection can be seen at www.walter-pall.de/galerie.htm.

Here are some shots of Walter at the October gathering.



November's Meeting:

Our November meeting will feature discussions about how to prepare your trees for surviving the winter season. Experienced members will offer suggestions to newer members and there will be a short file covering the subject. Be sure to have your questions ready, since this month is the time that steps should be taken to protect your collection from what the Farmer's Almanac says will be a more severe winter than we're used to.

Plan to attend this important discussion.

The President's Corner:



Mark Schmuck

Hi everyone!

As I write this note, the fall colors are just starting to show here in the east. I'm curious to see if the past summer's drought will affect the color intensity.

Hey! check this out. Are you as impatient as I am waiting for the good old U.S. Postal Service to issue a bonsai stamp? Why not take matters into your own hands in the meantime? I mean: put one of your own trees on a bona fide postage stamp.

The website <www.photostamps.com> will let you do just that. The company that offers this service is authorized by USPS to issue actual postage stamps in first class, post-card, air-mail, and other denominations. The minimum order is one sheet of 20 stamps.

I'm going to give this a try as soon as I get just the right photo.

See you at the meeting,

Mark

Upcoming Events: (items marked with a ●W denote a workshop)

November 15: (Another **Third Tuesday** affair, this time due to Election Day, being the first Tuesday following the first Monday of November, and since the month begins on a Tuesday...)

The topic for the meeting will be Over-wintering Trees in Pots.

Discussion, questions and answers. There will also be a short film on the subject...

December 13: Our Annual club auction and Christmas Party!!

Start putting together any bonsai related items for which you no longer have a burning need.

Books, tools, pots, even trees are welcome...

(Just make sure that any live material is protected from possible weather damage.)

April, 2006: MABS Symposium, Ramada Inn, E. Hanover NJ. Details to follow.

June 15-18, 2006: ABS Seminar. A week-end long classroom-style educational experience sponsored by the American Bonsai Society. It is being held at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs, NY. For more information and a listing of classes being offered, go to the ABS website at <www.absbonsai.org>

NOTE:

Unless otherwise specified, all of the Great Swamp afternoon workshops are held at the Arboretum, in Classroom "A" from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm., members only, 6 to 8 people, \$50 per person, bring your own tree.

And don't forget our website www.arboretumfriends.org/gsbonsai .

Follow the links to the Newsletter.

Gentle Reminder:

Dues are due. See Fred Aufschläger. He will graciously collect cash or check.

Annual dues remain at: \$30.00 for a single membership, or
\$40.00 for family membership.

November Plant Care Tips.

If they have not already done so, your deciduous trees will shed their leaves and become the winter silhouettes that are their trademark. Evergreens continue to grow, albeit very slowly. You should by now have your over-winter spots prepared and perhaps begun to bring your trees to the protected areas.

It is important to protect roots of recently potted or re-potted trees from the effects of harsh winter weather. Only rough pruning of raw material should be considered at this time, leaving short stubs that can be trimmed to shape in the spring. Wiring should not be attempted now.

Keep the soil uniformly moist if Mother Nature does not provide this for you. Do not over-water. Trees do not like their feet wet for prolonged periods. Provide some protection from heavy rains.

Trees requiring winter protection should be in their designated locations by mid to end of the month., They should be cleaned and sprayed with a non-systemic fungicide in case you didn't get to this last month. You might have luck with hardwood cuttings taken now.

Clean up your display area now that the trees are put away and spray with fungicide and pesticide in preparation for next spring. This gives the material time to work and be dissipated before the trees return.

Finally, make up your holiday gift list of tools, pots, books, etc and distribute it widely...

-
- Tips taken from *Growing & Displaying Bonsai* by Colin Lewis and Neil Sutherland and from *Bonsai, the Art of Growing and Keeping Miniature Trees* by Peter Chan

Contact Information:

President:	Mark Schmuck	- Contact Mark at lofty235@optonline.com or by Phone: 973.625.4632.
VP:	Michael Markoff	- Contact Mike at MJSmart@aol.com or by Phone: 973.895.6207
Treasurer:	Fred Aufschläger	- Contact Fred by phone at 908.766.1359 or 17 Lakeview Drive Bernardsville, NJ 07924.
Secretary:	Ken Olander	- Contact Ken at bowhunter444@verizon.net .
Newsletter:	Dan Boehmke	- Contact Dan at danno1@optonline.net or by phone at 973.627.1318

Ideas and offers of assistance for events, or scheduling questions, can be addressed to any of the officers. Don't be shy. Any and all help would be appreciated.