



# Great Swamp Bonsai Society

## January, 2011 Newsletter

THURSDAY, January 13, 2011 Morris County Library  
East Hanover Ave, Morristown, New Jersey  
Tool Maintenance and Sharpening

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### We're BACK...

After several months of conversion problems with computer systems and transferring of e-mail address lists between PC and Mac systems, your newsletter editor is back in business. Thanks to all of you for your patience during this hiatus...

### December Highlights:

Our December meeting featured our annual party and club auction. The gathering included snacks and goodies provided by members and lots of items for purchase. Many of the items up for auction were from a former member, XXXX NEOIUEU, who entered the Great Bonsai Garden in the sky during 2010. Some of these items were definitely of a collectible nature, especially the set of nesting copper soil sieves.

Those of you who were not in attendance missed a fine opportunity to expand your collections of Bonsai "goodies" as well as a great party.



## UPCOMING EVENT CALENDAR:

- Thursday, Jan. 13, 2011**     **Morris County Library. 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm**
- This meeting will feature our own Fred Aufschlager and Juan Calderon demonstrating Tool Maintenance and Sharpening. This presentation should be a must for us all, since we all have tools that need attention, and what better time to do this than in Winter.
- Thursday, Feb. 10, 2011**     **Morris County Library. 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm**
- Grafting Demo/Lecture by Jim Gavigan. Jim has considerable experience with this technique and is willing to share his experience. A MUST for all who aspire to improving your trees by grafting.
- Thursday, Mar. 10, 2011**     **Morris County Library. 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm**
- Tree selection for MABS show in April. This year's MABS festival will be held in Pennsylvania, near Harrisburg. The distance is not much further than we have experienced in the past few years, travelling to Kerhonkson, NY. It's just in the opposite direction. Be sure to bring a tree (or more) so that we have a good selection from which to pick our 3 representative specimens.

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



**Diego Pablos**

Hello everyone,

Hope everyone is doing well after that winter blizzard and that all your trees are fine too! Our January meeting (Note the special date and time, listed above) will feature tool maintenance and sharpening by our club members Fred Aufschlager and Juan Calderon, the meeting will be held at the Morris County Library from 6:00- 8:45 pm, across the street from the Arboretum.

Please be aware that another snow storm is closing on us for Tuesday night. The snow should be gone in time for our meeting on Thursday, but if you are planning to attend, please drive carefully. Be sure to bring tools so that you can benefit from the instruction being offered for their "care and feeding".

The February meeting (also being held on the special date and time, noted above) will feature Grafting lead by club member Jim Gavigan. This meeting will also be held at the Morris County Library from 6:00 - 8:45 pm.

Regards,  
Diego Pablos  
President, Great Swamp Bonsai Society

## JANUARY PLANT CARE:

So far, so good. Hopefully, all trees are doing well in spite of the weather we're having.

Not much going on at this time of year. All of our plants have gone into their dormant period. Except, perhaps for those of us with tropicals, we're not doing any styling, pruning or wiring at this point.

Outdoor trees should not need watering, but may need to be protected from excessive rain. A blanket of snow will do no harm to hardy trees in the open, but if a quick thaw occurs, it could be like having a week's worth of rain in a day. So if you have a large blanket of snow, and expect a thaw, it's wise to remove most of the snow ahead of the thaw.

Check for pests during your weekly water check. Conifers can be destroyed by aphids or spider mites in a matter of a couple of weeks. Also, allow your lower trunks to get some air during any mild spells to prevent them being over-moist. (Move the mulch around and leave trees exposed on a warm day)

Look over your tools, pots and other supplies. A good cleaning and sharpening might be required. Review your styling notes and photos. Plan for the up-coming spring while the time is available. You could also prepare your soil supply for repotting and order any supplies that you find in short supply. Growing in the winter can be a continuing source of satisfaction in the coming months.

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## DUES - DUES - DUES...

See Fred (or contact him as shown below) to take care of your annual dues. Note that due to increased expenses (Arboretum fees, etc.) we find it necessary to increase our annual dues for 2011 to \$40.00 per year. This is the first increase that Great Swamp has seen in many years and members present at the September meeting unanimously voted in favor of this change. We also face increased fees for bring noted visiting artists to our meetings since their expenses have also gone up.

We realize that these are difficult times, but we hope that you will continue to support your Great Swamp Bonsai Society and continue to enjoy all the benefits that membership brings.

See you all soon, and thank you.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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