



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **Tuesday, January 8th, 7-10 pm**

Presentation begins 7:00 pm SHARP!

January 2013 Newsletter

December Meeting

Happy New Year! Last month's meeting was all about celebrating the holidays, enjoying food, drink, and good company, and generally having a good time at our **Annual Club Auction and Winter Open House**.

The meeting started with a *thud* as we all converged at the usual meeting place, only to find the building locked, dark, and empty. Two of us went across Hanover Avenue to the **Morris County Library**, hoping the librarians could help us reach Park Police or anybody else that could get us into the Arboretum, which was attempted without success. That is, until the librarians themselves offered us one of their conference rooms, which we packed full of people, food, pots, and trees, and had a brisk, cheery holiday party and club auction. In spite of all the confusion I think we managed to have a good time, and nearly everything at the auction found a buyer and a seller.

This Month's Meeting

On Tuesday, January 8th, GSBS will host founding member **Martin Schmalenberg**, who will give a presentation on **Developing a Bonsai Eye** (with introductory comments on the **development of pine bonsai** if time permits). Mr. Schmalenberg has presented this talk at several venues around the country to get acclaim, so don't miss out. **Presentation begins promptly at 7:00 pm**. Feel free to bring a tree to the meeting for questions and comments, if time allows.

Novices and non-members always welcome!

Come and plan to get your hands dirty!

Dues are due

If you haven't yet paid your dues, it's only \$40 for an individual member or \$50 for a family membership, and helps to support our activities. Please see or contact club treasurer **Fred Aufschlager** (contact information and **membership form** on last page).

Boonton Historical Society: A Tribute to late GSBS member JSL Greentree

A reminder that the exhibit is open every Sunday between 1-4 pm (expected to run into 2013)—the Historical Society is housed in the red brick and stone building adjacent to the Boonton train station parking lot. On Sundays you can park there for free.

Don't Forget About MABS !



The poster is for the Midatlantic Bonsai Societies 30th Annual Spring Festival, held from April 19-21, 2013, at the Harrisburg/Hershey Holiday Inn in Grantville, PA. It features a list of activities including Friday Workshops, Professional & Members' Exhibits, and a Keido Demonstration by Master Kobayashi. Contact information for Brian O'Byrne is provided at the bottom right, including a phone number, email, and website. An illustration of several bonsai trees is on the left side of the poster.

**MIDATLANTIC
BONSAI SOCIETIES**
30TH ANNUAL SPRING FESTIVAL
APRIL 19-21, 2013

Featuring:
Kunio Kobayashi- Japan
Peter Warren- UK
Ryan Neil- USA

HARRISBURG/HERSHEY HOLIDAY INN GRANTVILLE, PA

- Friday Workshops
- Professional & Members' Exhibits
- Keido Demonstration by Master Kobayashi

Contact: Brian O'Byrne • 234 Sagamore Road
Millburn, NJ 07041 • 973-379-3386
Email: bkobyne@yahoo.com
www.midatlanticbonsai.treeservers.com

Plant Care Tips for January

During the bleak winter months, the extreme cold temperatures can take its toll on all of your trees. The main task is to protect them from the very cold weather. Check the soil in the pots to make sure it has not dried out. If so, water the soil so it is just damp. Don't wait until spring to do all of your maintenance! Winter is an excellent time for heavy pruning, new design and carving, needle plucking on pines (2-3 yr old needles). Don't forget to take off old wire and add new wire. This is a good time to plan your repotting schedule for spring. Draw up a list of trees that need repotting and order your soil requirements and any pots you may need. Finally, watch out for mice girdling your trees. Use mothballs or a hungry cat to prevent problems! [DY]

In recent years, with our increasingly mild winters, I have abandoned the covered cold frame for all of my hardy outdoor trees, largely in response to a nasty rodent event that hit my collection a few winters back. Outdoor temperatures were in the upper 20s and lower 30s, but inside the cold frame the soil was thawed and voles found the environment absolutely delightful—they dug burrows through all my larger pots, stripped all the live tissue from a dozen bonsai, and gnawed the roots clean off several bonsai apples and baldcypress. I lost about a third of a very large collection that year. The trees too big for the cold frame, and which I left exposed to be frozen solid, were untouched by the rodents. Since then I have restricted my collection to those species that can take whatever Mother Nature dishes out. The key, then, is to make sure the soil does not completely desiccate during prolonged cold spells. [JM]

2013 Calendar of Events:

Jan-Feb **Boonton Historical Society** continues a 3-month display commemorating our late club member **Greentree** – a celebration of her career as a gardener, landscape architect, artist, and civic activist. Open Sundays from 1-4 pm.

January Tuesday Jan 8

Martin Schmalenberg: Developing a Bonsai Eye. Program begins promptly at 7:00.

February Tuesday Feb 12

Creating Forest Plantings with Hornbeam and Zelkova. Club member Fred will bring his bonsai forests for pruning, redesign and repotting. We need all hands on deck for this one, so plan on getting your hands dirty! A great hands-on experience for newcomers to bonsai.

March Tuesday Mar 12

Topic still open, but we are working to get a professional nurseryman to teach us the tricks to **grafting**. Hands-on workshop. We will also select the 3 trees to represent our club at the Mid Atlantic Bonsai Symposium (MABS) in April.

April Tuesday Apr 9: Topic to be determined

Tuesday Apr 23: **Guest speaker Peter Warren**, fresh from his appearance at MABS the previous weekend.

May Tuesday May 14: Topic to be determined.

We are trying to engage a guest speaker for this meeting.

June **Sunday, June 2: Annual GSBS BONSAI OPEN HOUSE.**

Held in the upstairs lecture hall of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. Open to the public 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Club members arrive by 9:00 am to help set up. Lectures, demos, dozens of trees on display, vendors selling pots, tools, soil, books, DVDs and more.

Standing Offer for members of GSBS

Efrain Torres, owner and proprietor of **Manhattan Bonsai** in NYC, now offers **FREE shipping** on all orders from members of the Great Swamp Bonsai Society! Specifically, you can order online or by phone, and he will deliver your merchandise to the following meeting of GSBS. This represents a tremendous savings when it comes to ordering soil, pots, or trees, where shipping costs can be prohibitive. To take advantage of the offer, order online, select "Ground" for shipping, and put "GSBS member" in the comment field. (This is for **club members only**, please!) Visit Efrain's website at manhattanbonsai.com or phone him at (914) 793-1093.

Contact Information:

President: Diego E Pablos bonsai4ever@aol.com
Phone: 973.224.8139
289 Mount Hope Ave.
K-12, Rockaway Twp.
Dover, NJ 07801

Vice President: Bill Kasakoff bill.kasakoff@gmail.com

Treasurer: Fred Aufschläger fdauf@msn.com
Phone: 908.766.1359
17 Lakeview Drive
Bernardsville, NJ 07924

Newsletter: John Michalski huonia@aol.com

Great Swamp Bonsai Society

c/o Diego E Pablos
289 Mount hope Ave.
K-12, Rockaway twp.
Dover, NJ 07801

Club Information

Location:

The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
353 East Hanover Ave,
Morristown, NJ 07962

Date:

Second Tuesday of each Month,
(check our website for special dates
and locations)

Time: 7:00 – 10:00 pm

Remember to check our website
(<http://www.arboretumfriends.org/gsbonsai/index.htm>) for
special events, dates, updates
and latest information.

Great Swamp Bonsai Society Membership Registration:

Send to:

GSBS c/o Fred Aufshläger
17 Lakeview Drive,
Bernardsville, NJ 07924

New Renewal

Individual (\$40.00) Family (\$50.00)

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

If Family Membership, please list other members:
