



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **Tuesday, January 13th**

HOLIDAY PARTY, CLUB AUCTION, OPEN HOUSE!

January 2015 Newsletter

December Nor'easter, Wherefore Art Thou?



With apologies to any club members who suffered the storm predicted for December 9th, up in Morris County we had scarcely a raindrop, come late afternoon! But in the interests of safe-driving conditions for all concerned, we decided to cancel that meeting and push its agenda to January. See below.

This month's meeting: **Holiday Party, Club Auction, Open House!**

This will be our annual club **party** with food, drinks, and good company (we'll skip the holiday music this time around). Please bring along your favorite holiday treat, dessert, hors d'oeuvre, or (non-alcoholic) beverage. (email John at huonia@aol.com if you can bring cups, plates, utensils, etc.)

Spouses, Significant Others, and First-timers Welcome!

We will also be having our annual **Club Bonsai Auction**, so bring along your checkbook (or cash), as well as any **tools, books, DVDs, magazines, pots, trees**, or any other bonsai-related materials that you'd like to put up for auction. A portion of the proceeds goes to support the club.

MABS Registration information and schedule of events!

This year's **Mid Atlantic Bonsai Societies' Spring Festival** will be held **April 17-19th at the Fairbridge Inn** (formerly the Ramada Inn) on Route 10 West **in East Hanover, New Jersey**. Visit the MABS website at <http://midatlanticbonsai.org/registration.htm> for registration forms and all the details.

Are you all paid up?

Our Treasurer asks that those of you who owe the GSBS payments for the purchase of tools, magazines, books, trees, workshops or **dues**, please make an effort to "clear the books" by bringing with you some extra checks or cash to the next meeting. Thanks!

Plant Care Tips for January

During the bleak winter months, the extreme cold temperatures can take their toll on all of your trees. This year, we continue to experience temperatures fluctuating between the high 20s and the low 60s, and this can put additional stress on potted bonsai. The main task is to protect your trees from dehydration. Check the soil in the pots to make sure it has not dried out. If so, pile some snow on the pots, or if temperatures rise above freezing, water the soil so that 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 rodents girdling your trees. Use mothballs or a hungry cat to prevent problems! Rat poison is effective but care must be taken to prevent pets and non-target animals from getting to it. [DY & JM]

Club Soil Mix: We Still Have Bags of Akadama for sale!

Fred still has Akadama soil, in two granule sizes—2.5 mm (small grade) and 5.0 mm (medium grade). Bags are 18 liters, about 22 lbs. Cost per bag is \$40.00, which is a good price. Fred also has 3 bags of **bonsai soil from Saratoga** seller, about 20 lbs., \$25 each, and **pumice** at \$3/lb.

Bonsai Magazines for Sale

Fred also has received an extensive collection of various bonsai magazines, in continuous series spanning from around 1990 to 2008. He will bring some of it to Tuesday's meeting, and if there's something in particular you are looking for, please inquire.

Remember to save your copper wire clippings!

Following the November 2014 meeting, club member Kerry Heck brought in our collected copper wire clippings to turn in for scrap. All together it was 23 pounds of copper and a pound of brass wire screen, which brought the club **\$55.00** – more than the price of an annual membership. If we all contribute in the coming year, I'm sure it could be a lot more, so please save the pieces and bring them to the meetings.

Visit our webpage at <http://www.arboretumfriends.org/gsbonsai/>

Calendar of Events for 2014–2015 (topics subject to change)

January 13th: Club Holiday Party, Bonsai Auction, Open House.

February 10th: Initial Styling of stock Shimpaku Junipers. Club trees, hands-on workshop.
Workshop trees available for purchase if desired.

March 10th: Wiring Workshop. Bring your tree(s) from home to get some hands-on practice and instruction.

April 14th: Root-pruning and Repotting workshop. Bring in your own trees for assistance and practice.

April 21st (Tuesday after MABS): Guest presenter from MABS -- Budi Salistyo, from Indonesia.

May 12th: Topic to be determined.

June 7th (Sunday): Annual Club Open House and Bonsai Show.

*Novices and non-members always welcome!
Come and plan to get your hands dirty!*

Visit our webpage at <http://www.arboretumfriends.org/gsbonsai/>

Club Dues: Dues are due at the September meeting. If you still haven't paid, it's only \$40 for an individual membership, or \$50 for a family membership, and helps to support our activities. Please see or contact club treasurer **Fred Aufschläger** (contact information and **membership form** on last page).

GSBS Contact Information:

President: Diego E Pablos bonsai4ever@aol.com
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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:

Usually the 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 Aufschläger
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:
