



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: 7:00 pm Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Grafting Lecture Demo with Jim Gavigan

February, 2011 Newsletter

January Highlights

Our January meeting featured a presentation on tool maintenance, care and sharpening by Juan Calderon and Fred Aufschläger. Juan gave us a lecture on the tools that he has used over the years the good and the not so good, he also brought all of them for us to see. Fred also had some tools to tighten or loosen your cutters, scissors, or pliers, depending on the tool manufacturer; some couldn't be tighten due to the fact that they had a double sided connection, instead of a single sided connection like most Kiku tools have.

They also lectured on the importance of keeping our tools oiled and well sharpened. This will prevent your tool from rusting and it will also keep a better-sharpened edge on them.

Unfortunately, there were no pictures taken of any of the honing, or sharpening tools used.

MABS 2011 Spring Festival

The 28th annual MABS Spring Festival will commence Friday evening, April 15, and will continue through Sunday afternoon, April 17, at our new family-friendly location: the Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey hotel in PA,. Renowned international professional bonsai artists will present lectures and

Officers

Diego E Pablos President
Michael Markoff Vice-President
Fred Aufschläger Treasurer

Directors

Dan Boehmke, Mark Schmuck,
John Michalski, Brian O'Byrne,
Peter Michienzi, Juan Calderon

demonstrations, workshops, and critiques of bonsai, all material used in such demonstration will be raffled out, this a great opportunity to acquire some great material. Registrants will have weekend-long opportunities to observe and spend time with the artists at breakout sessions between demonstrations, and to view the MABS member clubs' Exhibit and our first INVITATIONAL PROFESSIONAL ARTIST BONSAI DISPLAY.

In addition, bonsai vendors will be on site offering a large selection of bonsai, pre-bonsai, accent plants, containers, stands, tools, wire, books and other supplies.

For more information and download of the registration forms you can visit there webpage at:

<http://midatlanticbonsai.freesevers.com/>

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Plant Care Tips for February

Now is a good time to begin putting together your bonsai compost. A suggested combination would be 1/3 peat, 1/3 garden compost, 1/3 sand or grit, and a slow-release fertilizer (about a handful per 5 gallons). Towards the end of the month, if there are any brief mild spells, it is time to repot and wire those deciduous trees. It is also possible to lift trees from the ground and do some undercutting. Leave evergreens until later. Branch pruning of deciduous and evergreen trees can be done (except Japanese maples and pines). Any major redesign and reshaping of trees can be done now. Pines and evergreens can be grafted now.

Upcoming Events:

- March 8 Grafting with Jim Gavigan, at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, from 7-10 pm
- March 16 Selection of trees for MABS, at the Morris County Library, from 6:30-8:45 pm
- April 14 Guest Speaker Kathy Shaner, location and time to be determined.
- April 15 MABS regional runoff for A.B.S- supported Joshua Roth New Talent Competition, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, been held at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey hotel in PA
- April 15-17 MABS 2011 Spring Festival Starting around 6:30 pm with complimentary snacks and beverages for all registrants, opening lecture/demonstration, starts at 8:00 pm.
- May 10 Coordination for June Open House Show at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, from 7-10 pm
- June 5 Annual Bonsai Open House, to be held at the Haggerty Education Center, from 10-3 pm, great trees on display, with several lecture/demos, with demo tree raffled to the public.

Kathy Shaner

Starting her career in bonsai in 1983, Kathy has become internationally known and recognized for her excellence in the art of bonsai. After studying under several of California's most respected bonsai instructors, she was granted the opportunity to study in Toyohashi, Japan. There she worked for Yasuo Mitsuya, highly regarded in Japan as a master of Gendai (contemporary form) bonsai training.



Since that time, Kathy's career has taken off in many directions. She uses her knowledge and ability to find the "soul of the tree" (as Mr. Mitsuya puts it) to teach her students in a clear and understandable way. Her many bonsai activities include conducting seminars, full-day workshops, lecturing on-site and working on private collections. Students are taught the art and culture of bonsai using her creative specialized methods. Her critiques are a highly regarded part of the program and have set a standard for other instructors. Kathy also maintains and designs private collections throughout the United States.

Kathy is the curator of the Golden State Bonsai Collection-North at Lake Merritt in Oakland, California. Display of this collection opened in the fall of 1999. She is also the resident bonsai master at the new El Dorado Bonsai School. The school sits among the trees on a beautiful 52-acre campus in Placerville, California, and is the first bonsai school in the United States to feature Japanese-accredited bonsai master instructors.

Presidents Corner



Diego Pablos

Hello everyone,

On our February meeting, we talked about the different components that we can buy locally to make our bonsai soils, including the substitution of Turface to other materials. just keep in mind that some trees will not do good in a basic bonsai mixture due to the fact that it might not be acidic enough for azalea, so when you are making you mixture keep in mind that the soil for azaleas has to be more acidic that the one for Junipers and so on.

We are currently updating our Club Brochure, and we're in need of some good Bonsai Pictures to choose from, to be added to our New Brochures. So if you have some great Bonsai Picture, keep in mind that I'm not seeking Pictures of trees that are not owned by one of the clubs members, since that could lead to legal issues with actual tree owners, please send me any photos to consider their use in the brochure.

Also, We are trying to upgrade the Webpage, so it occupies less memory and still looks great and easier to find stuff. Send me any images that we could use in the webpage also. If there is any links you want us to consider adding to web page, please send them to me to be considered. We are considering the pros and cons of opening our very our, Arboretum free, Web Page. You can go to :

"http://www.freesevers.com/cgi-bin/show_me?page=hosting_compare&refcd=WSUOWS010823NB01"

If you want to take a look at the prices and options available....

Reminder that the March meeting will be held at the Arboretum at our regular day and time, March 8, lead by club member Jim Gavigan, who will talk about grafting.

We are also meeting at the Morris County Library March 16 from 6:30 to 8:45 pm, to make the selection of the trees that will represent our club at this year MABS Spring Festival, held at the Holiday Inn in Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel, in PA. For more info. or to register go to :
<http://midatlanticbonsai.freesevers.com/register.htm>

If there is any topic you would like to hear, send us an email with your ideas so we can incorporate the into our lectures/demo.

Thank you for your continuous support, hope to see you next month at the meeting.

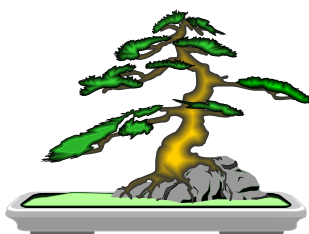
Just a reminder, if you need help with your trees, do not hesitate to bring them and your questions, all club members would be glad in assisting you.

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