



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **TUESDAY, March 14th, 6:30 pm**

MABS tree submissions

March 2017 Newsletter

MABS is coming! (See page 3)

Tuesday, March 14th: Tree selection for this year's MABS Spring Festival, and How to prepare your bonsai for public display

If you have a tree that you would like to submit to represent GSBS at this year's Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies (MABS) Spring Festival, please bring it to this month's meeting. If there are more than four candidates, we will have a "penny vote" in which each club member will be given three pennies, to be placed before their three favorite contenders—the top four contenders will represent our club at the festival.

As part of this month's meeting, we will have some pointers/demos on how to "spruce up" (if I may use that term) your bonsai for public display and judging.

As always, feel free to bring along any tree you wish for advice, assistance, or just admiration. If you have a tree that you wish to work on at the meeting, that's okay too!

Special February meeting (Sunday, 2/19): Guest artist David Knittle on the topic of collected bonsai from New England

Guest David Knittle gave a very good presentation on the how's and why's of collecting native trees, focusing on his home territory of Vermont. The meeting was well attended, with around 25 attendees. David brought lots of collected material including Red Spruce, Larch, and Balsam Fir, mostly collected from power line cuts and State lands (with permit). Much of his material are "pocket" trees, collected from natural depressions in exposed bedrock, and according to David such trees lift up easily without the need to cut back the roots. Mr. Knittle explained the entire process of getting the tree from ground to pot, his preferred fertilizer regimen, and even a few insights into the finer points of mosses. A great meeting. (See photos next page.)



This year's Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies (MABS) Spring Festival

The MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies' Spring Festival is right around the corner. Check out the details at <http://midatlanticbonsai.org/spring%20festival.htm>. Once again the Festival takes place in Cromwell CT. The early-bird registration closed on March 1, but there may still be room in some of the workshops and critiques, so register ASAP if you hope to join them. Register online at www.MidAtlanticBonsai.org. If you're a Facebook member please; visit, like, share and Invite your Friends to the Facebook Page: <https://facebook.com/midatlanticbonsai/>

The Festival Features:

- A Bonsai Exhibition of the Best Bonsai specimens the 12 member clubs can present.
- A very well stocked vendor room selling Bonsai and all the supplies needed. An updated list of our Vendors and links to their web sites is available on our web site. May I suggest a little online shopping or pre-orders to be picked up at the festival. www.MidAtlanticBonsai.org
- Three world Renown Bonsai Masters Leading workshops and on stage Bonsai Lectures and Demonstrations on hand selected Pre-Bonsai Trees many of which will be Ruffled off at the Completion of the artist styling session.
- Silent Auctions of donated Bonsai Items, during the lecture Demonstrations.
- Four Artist led teaching critiques of the Member Clubs Bonsai Exhibit.
- A Fun-Filled Saturday Night Awards Banquet and Auction and so much more.....

This year's world-renown MABS guest artists will be:

Akio Kondo is a multiple award-winning artist from Japan, with over 25 years of experience working on world-class bonsai. His work has been showcased in famous shows in Japan such as Kokufu-ten, Taikan-ten, and Sakufu-ten. His juniper won the coveted Prime Minister Award in the 2014 Sakufu-ten. Akio completed his apprenticeship under the late Kihachiro Kamiya of the famous Kihachi-en bonsai nursery located in the Aichi prefecture where he served as senior "sempai" to bonsai artist (and MABS 2017 co-headliner) Boon Manakitivipart, and they've continued to collaborate closely since Boon's time in Japan. Akio first visited the United States in

1995 and continues to travel to the US to work on private collections and provide guidance to serious enthusiasts. In 2009 Akio sold his bonsai nursery allowing him the freedom to travel across Japan and abroad to work on his client's trees.

Will Baddeley's interest in bonsai started in 1997. He is self-taught but heavily inspired by Colin Lewis for his use of native species, particularly elm, and Kevin Wilson for his vision and carving ability and imagination. His work has been exhibited in the European Ginko Awards, he won the UK New Talent contest in 2002, and two pieces of his work are on the register of important British Bonsai. He has been teaching bonsai, both novices and advanced students alike, for the last nine years.

Boon Manakitivipart's passion is bonsai education- both learning and teaching. He had the privilege to study with one of the most famous bonsai masters in Japan, Kihachiro Kamiya. As part of his training, Boon helped set up and work every major Japanese bonsai show. His goal today is to share his bonsai expertise and knowledge with other bonsai enthusiasts. Boon sponsors study groups and workshops throughout the US and abroad and has a successful line of instructional DVDs. Rather than operate a retail bonsai business, Boon prefers to work directly with students, customers, and private collections around the world. Boon has won numerous national and international awards for his work on bonsai, most recently the Best Medium Size Bonsai in the 2016 US National Exhibit. He is known for his innovative techniques, unique bonsai styling, and creative teaching methods. Boon gets his greatest satisfaction when his students attain success: Several have won awards in major exhibitions, and the 2016 National Exhibition showcased over 30 trees from twenty of his students. Several of Boon's students have become acclaimed bonsai artists and teachers in their own right.

Kusamono artist **Young Choe** studied traditional art-ink painting and calligraphy in her native Korea before moving to the United States. She obtained her B.S. in Horticulture from the University of Maryland. She was able to combine her artistic talent and horticultural knowledge to create kusamono while volunteering at the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum in Washington, D.C. She traveled to Japan to study this unique art form with the master Kusamono artist Keiko Yamane, a former student of Saburo Kato. Young currently works at the US National Arboretum and at the USDA- NCRS National Plant Materials Center as a propagational horticulturist.

In-house business: Are you paid up?

Dues are normally collected at the September meeting. If you have not yet paid up, please bring cash or check to **club treasurer Rich Meyers**, or mail it to his address on the last page of this newsletter. Annual membership remains at \$40 for individual, \$50 family membership, and helps support club activities such as hosting touring experts. See last page for details.

Plant Care Tips for March

March is the perfect time to repot, and to branch- and root-prune. Trees less than 5 years old should be repotted annually, trees between 5 and 20 years old may be repotted every other year, and trees over 20 should be repotted every 3 years. By the end of March, depending on weather conditions, trees can be gradually brought out of winter shelter. Evergreens may be fertilized now and, in general, you may spray for fungus and insects on a warm day. March is really the last month deciduous trees can be lifted from the ground, as buds have not yet broken. Evergreens can be lifted until the end of April. March and April are also good months to dig trees from the wild, keeping as much fibrous root attached as possible. [DY]

Keep your trees cool. Don't be in a hurry to encourage early growth, as it can still get cold. March is a *great* month for repotting, and for digging planted trees and collecting field grown ones. [JM]

Meeting Dates for 2016–2017

NOTE: Our club calendar is not yet filled – suggestions welcome!

March 14th: We select the 3 trees to represent GSBS at the 2017 Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies' (MABS) Spring Festival. Main meeting topic: preparing for the show!

April 7-9: This year's Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies' (MABS) Spring Festival.

April 11th: Afternoon workshop (1:00-4:30) with guest artist **Boon Manakitivipart**; evening presentation by same 6:30-9:30 pm.

May 9th: Topic to be determined.

June 4th (SUNDAY): GSBS Annual Bonsai Open House

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

Novices and non-members always welcome!

Come and plan to get your hands dirty!

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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: 6:30 – 9:30 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

c/o Diego E Pablos
289 Mount Hope Ave.
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Great Swamp Bonsai Society Membership Registration:

Send to:

GSBS c/o Diego Pablos **New** **Renewal**
289 Mount Hope Ave.
K-12, Rockaway Twp. **Individual (\$40.00)** **Family (\$50.00)**
Dover, NJ 07801

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Address: _____ **Phone:** (_____)

If Family Membership, please list other members:
