



# Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: Open House Sunday, June 5, 2011

From 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

May 2011 Newsletter

## May Highlights

During the May meeting, we discussed some minor things about displaying your trees on shows. Michael Markoff gave us some information acquired during his critiques at MABS, on the proper way to display your trees when using accent items. Following on the etiquette used in Japanese bonsai show displays, based on this we just learned that your bonsai tree has to be pointing toward your accent item and/ or scroll, and that your pot has to be centered in the table. Also, that you should never place your tree directly on the displaying table, talking about the table where you put you composition on, without a table, a slab or a bamboo mat of some sort. You should also keep in mind that the pot of your accent plant or the item used as your accent should never call your attention away from your tree, your bonsai should be the center of attention in your display.

## Plant Care Tips for June

It's getting late to dig or repot hardy trees, though it can still be done if you know what you're doing or have a smart friend. Your feeding, pinching, and pruning schedules should be in full swing by now. Pinch the terminal buds from deciduous trees, leaving only one pair of leaves, and most of your candle-pinching for evergreens will be winding down at this point. Everyone seems to have their own preferences for fertilizers and feeding schedules, so ask around or find a good book. Keep an eye peeled for insect pests and don't overdo it with the chemicals! Always read and follow manufacturers' directions, and be aware that plants in small containers are more easily stressed than plants growing in the ground. If you spray your trees with insecticides or fungicides, it's best to put them into the shade for the rest of the day.

Tips Taken From *Growing & Displaying Bonsai* by Colin Lewis and Neil Sutherland and from *Bonsai, the Art of Growing and Keeping Miniature Trees* by Peter Chan

### Officers

Diego E Pablos ..... President  
Michael Markoff ..... Vice-President  
Fred Aufshläger ..... Treasurer

### Directors

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

The  
Great  
Swamp  
Bonsai  
Society

## Upcoming Events:

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.

July              No meeting scheduled.

Aug 7         **Annual Club Picnic**, to be held at the Markoff's Residence, starting at 12:00 pm (noon) bring you bathing suits. Details will soon follow.

Sep 13        To be Announced ...

Oct 11        To be Announced ...

***September and onward....*** Information about upcoming meetings and events will appear in future newsletters and on our webpage.... Stay tuned....

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## Open House:

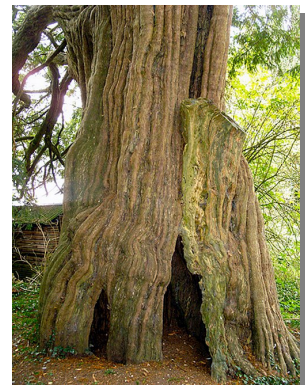
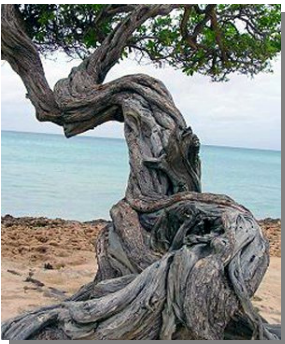
Don't forget Sunday, June 5, 2011 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, open to the public 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Arboretum in the upstairs hall.

Jim Gillespie will be on hand to provide us with the opportunity to choose and purchase from his array of tools, books fertilizers, etc...

We look forward to a great turnout. Don't be shy; all levels of trees are welcome. A combination of Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced trees makes the display more "approachable to the first time guests. It also shows that they don't need to be experts to enjoy Bonsai and/or join us at the Great Swamp.

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## Bonsai Inspirations:





**Diego Pablos**

## Presidents Corner

Hello everyone,

On our May meeting, we discussed the final arrangements that needed to be taken care for our June Open House. Including the proper way of displaying your trees, that is placement of the tree on top of a displaying table, wood slab, etc... the tree has to point at the accent plant, stone or figuring. If you feel that you need more instruction on proper displaying etiquette you can contact any of the Clubs board members, and ask for help on this matter.

Annual Open House, to be held in the upstairs hall of the Haggerty Education Center (the same building in which we have our meetings) on Sunday June 5th, between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. ALL CLUB MEMBERS are encouraged to bring one or a few trees to display to the public. We will have a large display of club trees, and present several lecture/demos with the demo trees raffled to the public. Club members should arrive by 9:00 am on the show day, to help set up. We will supply tables, risers, and table runners. Please make sure to bring along a suitable stand, base, rock slab, board, bamboo mat, etc. to set beneath your tree(s) for an outstanding presentation, as well as suitable accent plants. If you don't have such items, email a club member and perhaps we can help you put something together. Also useful are those tri-fold cardboard presentation boards (you can find them in office supply stores, arts & crafts store, etc...) that stand about 3 foot high and cost between \$4-15 depending on quality and they come in both black and white, depending on what sort of backdrop you prefer. (These aren't mandatory, but they come in useful if you need to display your tree in front of, for example, the auditorium's fire alarm, extinguisher or any window)

Also coming up is our Annual Club Picnic, Which will be held at Michael and May Markoff's home, on Sunday, August 7, starting around 12 noon.

Thank you for your continuous support, hope to see you all at the Open House!

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.

Regards

## Contact Information:

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

Michael Markoff [MJSmart@aol.com](mailto:MJSmart@aol.com)  
Phone: 973.895.6287

Fred Aufshläger [fdauf@msn.com](mailto:fdauf@msn.com)  
Phone: 908.766.1359  
17 Lakeview Drive  
Bernardsville, NJ 07924

### **Other topics of interest:**

*Several topics are still open for future consideration. Among those are:*

- 1) Weekend beginner's workshops*
- 2) Preparation, cultivation and design of a Club Tree for future fundraising.*

*If any of these ideas seem like something with which you would like to be involved, please don't be shy. We encourage your input on these and any other ideas, which might be helpful to our club and/or would help in our fundraising efforts. You should also feel free to donate trees, stones, books, tools, pots, etc that can be raffled (not auctioned) for fundraising. See Diego or Fred with your ideas.*

*We also encourage you to suggest ideas for meeting topics and if you feel able to host a meeting, please speak up. We can help you to work out a "lesson plan" to get you started.*

## Dues are due...

It's that time of year again, so please be forthcoming with your dues. Your club is not able to provide guest lecturers, etc without your monetary support, so please... Dues are only \$40 for an individual member or \$50 for a family membership, and helps to support our activities. Please see or contact Fred.



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

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