

# Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: TUESDAY, May 9th, 6:30 pm

Topic: Redesign

May 2017 Newsletter

## Last month: Bring-Your-Own Workshop with guest artist Boon Manakitivipart, fresh from MABS.

The April meeting featured a presentation by Boon, which was preceded by a paid, bring-your-own workshop in the afternoon. Some photos of the presentation follow.







## Tuesday, May 9th: Redesign!

We've all been there—that nice tree you've been working on for a few years—or maybe 20—and this spring the top died back! Or that important branch on one side never broke into leaf. Now you've got three options—learn to love the tree the way it is; throw it into the mulch pile (who would have the heart?); or **redesign the tree to take advantage of the imposed change!** 

Another common scenario involves none of the heartache described above, but simply takes a tree you've been working at from one perspective, and redesigns it to take advantage of a new front, a different planting angle, or a complete re-imagining of the raw material.

Our May meeting will take as its topic the re-designing of an established bonsai. Please bring in any trees that have put you into this situation past or present—so that you can (a) show us how you redesigned it, (b) submit the tree for comments and suggestions, or (c) actually work on the redesign during the meeting!



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

The MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies' Spring Festival was held April 7-9 in Cromwell CT. If you've never attended one of these, you should make time in your schedule to catch the next one! Some of the trees on display are shown below.



### 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 Rick 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 May

By May most deciduous trees have come into leaf and new candles on pines have sprouted. Watering should now routinely be done once a day. Cuttings of evergreens may still be taken. Air-layering of deciduous and evergreens can be continued. Pinch back long shoots of deciduous trees as sudden frosts can damage the young leaves. [DY]

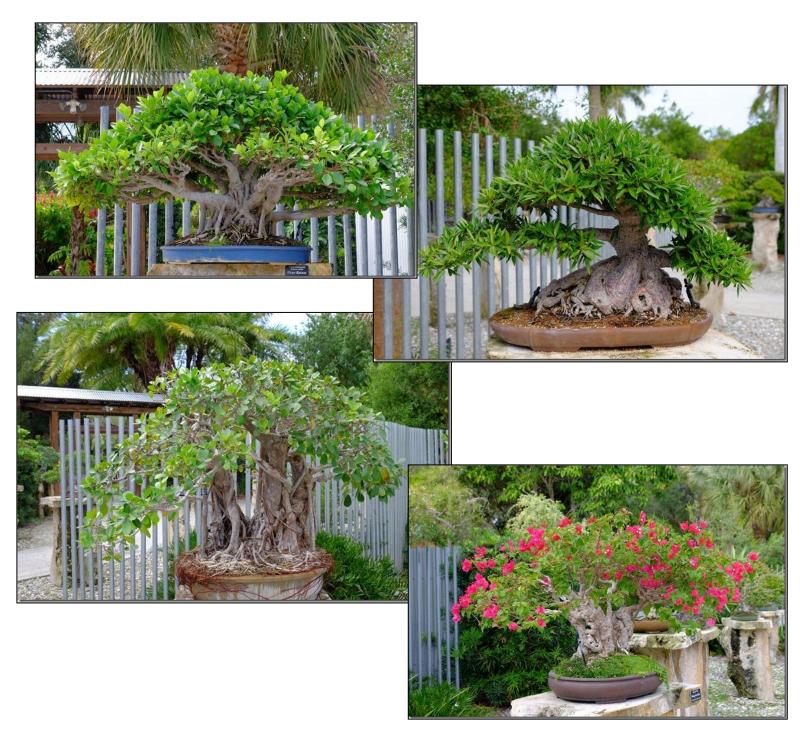
You can still repot or dig trees in May if you're careful. Begin your feeding, pinching, pruning schedules in earnest. It's growing season, folks! Oddly, in many ways this is easier than the worrying months of winter. [JM]

## Heath Cote Botanical Gardens, Florida

Alert GSBS member **Steve Guyette** informs us of a botanical garden with an impressive display of **tropical bonsai** you might find worth your time if you are in the area. It's on Florida's east coast, just a short distance from Rt. 95 on Rt. 1 in Fort Pierce Florida. It's the James J. Smith Bonsai Gallery at Heathcote Botanical Gardens. Their web-site says it's the <u>Largest Public</u> <u>Tropical Bonsai Collection in the United States</u>.

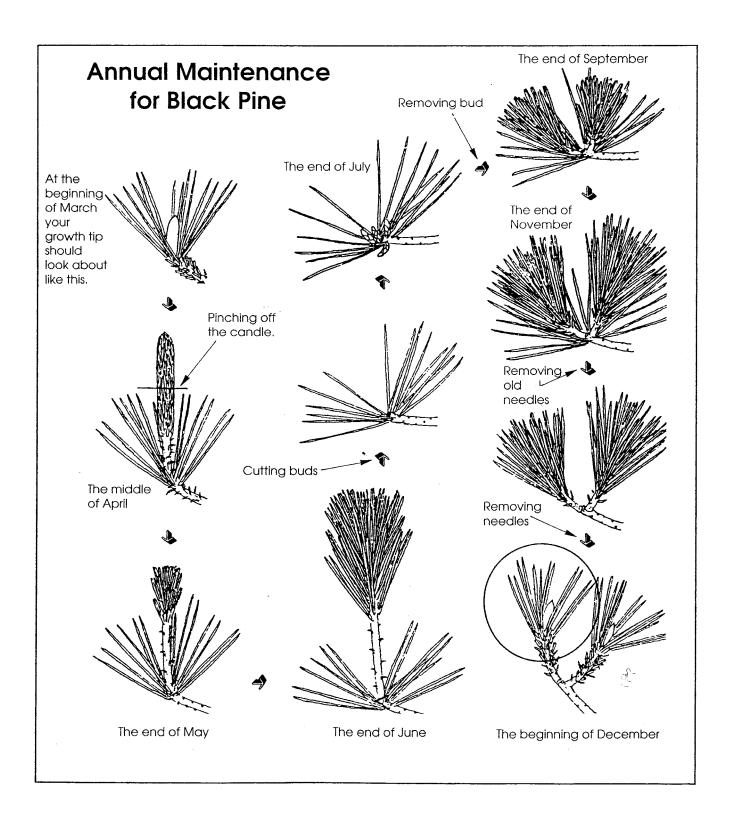
The web-site is: <u>https://www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org/garden-rooms/james-j-</u> <u>smith-bonsai-gallery/</u>

Some of Steve's photos are included for your enjoyment. Thanks for the heads-up, Steve!



## **Black Pine Candle Pinching**

Here's a piece we nabbed from *International Bonsai* magazine, a long time ago. Still very helpful!



## Meeting Dates for 2016-2017

## **NOTE:** Many topics left to fill – suggestions welcome!

May 9<sup>th</sup>: Redesigning established bonsai.

June 4<sup>th</sup> (SUNDAY): GSBS Annual Bonsai Open House

July 11, 2017: Topic To Be Determined

September 12, 2017: Topic To Be Determined

October 24, 2017: **Guest Artist David Easterbrook!** Afternoon Workshop 1pm-4:30pm. Evening Meeting 6:30-9:30

November 14, 2017: Topic To Be Determined

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

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

## **GSBS** Contact Information:

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### 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)

**<u>Time</u>:** 6:30 – 9:30 pm

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

Great Swamp Bonsai Society Send to:	y Membership Regis	stration:
GSBS c/o Diego Pablos 289 Mount Hope Ave. K-12, Rockaway Twp I Dover, NJ 07801	New ndividual (\$40.00)	Renewal Family (\$50.00)
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