



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **Tuesday, May 8th**

Prep for June Open House/Yew as bonsai

May 2018 Newsletter

Tuesday, May 8th: Preparing your Bonsai for our June Open House

(Please note that previous newsletters listed this meeting for May 15th in error.)

This month's meeting will be divided between a demo/discussion on how to **display your bonsai** at our upcoming **Bonsai Open House** (which will be held Sunday, June 3rd, stay tuned for further details), and a presentation on **Yew Bonsai** by club member John Michalski

Bonsai Display

Various club members will be bringing trees, stands, accent plants, and viewing stones to demonstrate various techniques for displaying your bonsai at our upcoming Open House. Please feel free to bring a setup of your own to expand on the discussion.

U Should Get Into Yews, and Here's Y

Yews (*Taxus* sp.) make excellent material for bonsai—they produce long-lasting, dark green needles that stay small and compact; their branches hold their positions permanently after one season with wire; they readily sprout new shoots from mature branches and trunks; they can be carved elaborately, producing deadwood that resists decay for many years; and they are readily available, often from mature plantings that homeowners wish to clear out or redesign.



John Michalski will be bringing an assortment of yews to demonstrate these and other qualities, as well as showing how to develop raw material into show-quality bonsai in just a few seasons.

Last month: Guest artist Tony Tickle

Our April meeting featured guest artist **Tony Tickle** of the UK, fresh from his appearance at the Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies' (MABS) Spring Festival held April 13-15 in Cromwell, Connecticut. Tony's presentation was, I think all present would agree, a great experience and we should consider ourselves lucky to get him back again any time he's available.

Several members of the GSBS, along with members of South Jersey's **Deep Cut Bonsai Society**, participated in a paid afternoon workshop in which attendees brought their own trees to work on with Tony's guidance. The workshop concluded at 4:30 and all present went out for dinner at Arthur's Steak House in Morris Plains, before returning to our usual meeting place for Tony's evening presentation, which was free to all comers. At the evening demo Tony styled a Shimpaku juniper, which was raffled off at the conclusion of the demonstration.

The entire day was a great success for both bonsai clubs, and we welcome Deep Cut Bonsai to join us again for future outings.





A large Yew that was styled during the afternoon workshop.



GSBS member Monica Mosquera helps Tony Tickle demonstrate the proper method of wiring two opposing branches.



GSBS member Evan DeAngelis assists Tony Tickle in demonstrating the strength of copper wire.



Members of Deep Cut Bonsai Society put some finishing touches on a Pine from the afternoon workshop.

Results of GSBS Collecting Trip

On Saturday, April 21st, around a dozen members of the GSBS met at the property of club member **Matthew Schror**, in Hope NJ. Matthew has recently taken charge of a 14-acre tract of land that has gone fallow, and which he intends to bring back into cultivation. We were invited to take anything we thought we could use (with the exception of the sugar maples, which Matthew wanted undisturbed), including hornbeam, spicebush, and Russian olive, among other finds.

Among those present were Mark Schmuck, Rick Myers, Monica Mosquera, Dave and Tim Seaton, Timothy Kuhlmann, Izzy Gurler, Diego and Derek Pablos, SC Hwang. (Forgive me if I've left you out; I was not present.) According to reports, everyone worked hard and most came away with something special. Some photos sent in by attendees are included below.



(left) David and Tim Seaton excavate a robust Hornbeam; (below) a Spicebush collected by Diego Pablos.



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]

Save and Bring In Your Discarded Bonsai Wire

Please remember to save and bring in those wire clippings. About once a year we bring them to a scrap metal dealer and swap them for cash. It's usually about enough to equal one or two paid memberships, so it really does help keep the GSBS afloat.

Have You Paid Your Dues?

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.



Meeting Dates for 2017–2018

NOTE: We are still planning our calendar – suggestions welcome!

May 8, 2018: ***Preparing and Displaying your Bonsai at our June Open House / Yews as bonsai***

June 3, 2018: ***1st Sunday of the month – Annual Club Bonsai Open House!***



GSBS member Peter Michienzi's magnificent Eastern Red Cedar, at MABS 2018.

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.
K-12, Rockaway twp.
Dover, NJ 07801

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:

