



GREAT SWAMP BONSAI SOCIETY

June, 2007 Newsletter

No Regular Formal Meeting In June

*Frelinghuysen Arboretum, E. Hanover Ave, Morristown
Open House June 2. Come One, Come All, bring trees.*

May Highlights:

First of all let me say that hopefully, everyone has recovered from MABS in April. It was a great show, as usual. My condolences to those of you who may have missed it. Perhaps you'll partake of some of the festivities in 2008.

Our May meeting featured Roy Nagatoshi. In addition to styling a rather nice old Scots Pine (*Pinus Sylvestris*). He also demonstrated his approach grafting technique for placing Shimpaku Juniper onto San Jose Juniper stock. This gives the shimpaku a boost, causing it to develop more rapidly than it would on its own, while adding nice foliage to the San Jose's gnarly trunk.

In the afternoon before the meeting, Roy conducted a BYOT workshop, at which various members and their trees received excellent tutelage from the master.

We welcomed two new faces to our meeting this month: Robert Lin and Shenhwa Chuang. Also in attendance was George LeBolt of the Bergen Bonsai Society.

Below are some scenes from both the workshop and the meeting.



PRELUDE TO SUMMER

----- STILLWATER STUDIO PRESENTS -----

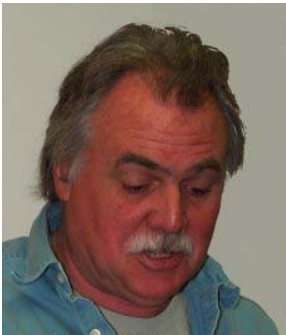
AN AFTERNOON WITH BILL VALAVANIS

11:00am -1:00pm Hospitality, Visit, Explore the grounds, Look at the Trees, Finger food provided.
Bring your own drinks . Wine, Beer, Soda, etc.
1:00pm - BILL VALAVANIS -TALK ----- “ THE GENESIS OF CLASSICAL BONSAI “
Come spend an afternoon in a beautiful setting, see some outstanding bonsai.
Mix with friends, all the while learning from the best.
The cost will be 20\$ a person, just to cover the cost of the lecture.

DIRECTIONS !!

RT # 80 WEST EXIT #12 BLAIRSTOWN-HOPE EXIT
RIGHT TURN TOWARD BLAIRSTOWN
Go to end and turn LEFT AT TEE,
AT TRAFFIC LIGHT MAKE HAIRPIN RIGHT TURN
GO 6 MI. TO A TEE, MAKE LEFT TURN AROUND A WHITE CHURCH,
MAKE LEFT AT FORK, UP HILL,
GO 1.5 MI. FIRST RIGHT TURN
---MIDDLEVILLE RD. 3RD DRIVEWAY ON LEFT, NO. 926
Contact Marty at (973)-383-8377
Or Online at sputnik1950@hotmail.com
RIDES CAN BE ARRANGED IN ADVANCE
CALL MARK at (973)-625-4632

Presidential Corner:



Mark Schmuck

HI Everybody!

I hope to see you all on Saturday at the Open House, come on out , bring a tree or two, and just hang out and enjoy the afternoon.

We'll firm up plans for the Sun. at Marty's and get people signed up for our collected Larch / Tropical workshop with George LeBolt in July.

See you in June,

Mark

Picnic:

If last year is any indication, our Annual Picnic on August 5 at John Michalski's in Morristown should be a rousing success. Last year's picnic had a good turnout and everyone had a great time wandering about John's collection and enjoying the comeraderie and good food. Everyone brought something so we had a good variety of goodies on which to snack. Hope to see all the familiar faces again this year as well as the new ones.

Directions and further details will follow in the next newsletter.

Upcoming Event Calendar:

- June 2** **ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE** - Haggarty Auditorium 9am-4pm open to the public 10 am- 3pm.
All members are urged to bring a tree or two for display to the public.
Jim Gillespie will once again be on hand to vend your bonsai needs.
- June 17** **Come One, Come All to Stillwater Studio** (Marty Schmalenberg's)
Featuring a lecture by Bill Valavanis from International Bonsai, Rochester, NY
Subject: The Genesis of Classical Bonsai.
Cost: \$20 per attendee.
- July 10** Afternoon tropical workshop (12:30-4:00) with George LeBolt, Pres., Bergen Bonsai Society.
The workshop will feature both tropicals and 3 collected American Larch. A good opportunity for newer members to get a good start with collected material. Sign up at our next meeting. George's lecture/demo topic at the regular meeting will feature a tropical styling.
- August 5** Picnic at John Michalski's in Morristown. Directions will follow

--- And, coming up ---

- September 18** Julian Adams of Adams Bonsai in Virginia. Note: Third Tuesday.

June Plant Care Tips:

Flowering should be over now and new foliage is maturing. Now begins the summer routine...

Chinese junipers are the only trees that you should consider for repotting at this time, provided they are shielded from drying wind and full sun. If a tree appears to have outgrown its pot you may safely place it into a larger pot providing it's roots have not been damaged.

Begin your daily watering routine and mist the foliage at the same time, keeping in mind, however, that water left on the leaves in full sun can burn the leaves. Early morning or evening would be the best time for this activity.

Continue trimming your trees. Some will tend to slow their growth toward the end of the month in anticipation of another spurt later in the season. Later growth will appear at the tips of the earlier shoots unless they are trimmed back.

Keep pinching your conifers as they grow. Deciduous trees that have hardened off can be leaf pruned at this time...

Pine and spruce can be pruned now. Start with the smaller branches and proceed to the larger ones as we near the end of the month. Pruning of deciduous trees is ok, but they may tend to throw new shoots around the pruning site.

Keep checking for insects and disease and keep the weeds out of your pots. Weed roots rob your tree of nutrients. If you have trees that do not show any signs of growth by the end of the month, it may be time to sound "TAPS" for them. If this is the case, inspect them closely both above and below ground to find out what caused their demise. This knowledge may help prevent similar losses in the future. Air layers can be successfully started now.

Wire, wire, wire away on any trees that seem to need it. Check earlier wires to see that they have not begun to dig into the branches. You will recognize the symptoms and can remove the old wire in favor of new.

Your feeding schedule can begin in earnest with a well balanced fertilizer. Alternate feedings of bone meal, blood meal or a seaweed/fish combination with a higher phosphorus fertilizer. This will provide extra needed nourishment for your trees.

Consider soft wood cuttings of Chinese elm, zelkova, Japanese and trident maples. They should "root up" in 3 to 4 weeks if conditions are favorable. These cuttings will likely be ready for individual potting by the end of next month (July)

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

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