



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **Saturday, July 18**

Time: 1-4 pm

Summer Meeting Series

Bring food & a tree

July 2015 Newsletter

July Meeting: Informal Club Picnic, Saturday July 18th

Please join us at **the home of club member Kerry and Jill Heck** at their home (22 Fairview Ave. Pequannock, NJ 07440), on **Saturday July 18th, from 1-4 pm**. Bring a tree (or two) to discuss, get advice, or show off, and a food, beverage, snack, or dessert. Family, friends, newcomers welcome. **Please RSVP** Kerry at cjandthebears@optonline.net so that they know who's coming. **Thanks for hosting, Kerry & Jill!**

Recap: Our 2015 Bonsai Open House, Sunday, June 7th

We had a solid turnout of club members, good trees, fine displays, and healthy number of visitors this year—despite gaps in our own advertising (for which your faithful editor takes some responsibility—see request for help on **page 3**). We also welcome about 20 new friends to our club newsletter—Great Swamp welcomes you with open arms, and we hope very much to see you soon at one of our upcoming meetings!

Awards went out to **Mark Schmuck** (**People's Choice** for his **Shimpaku Juniper**); **Peter Michienzi** (**Best in Show** for his **Eastern Red Cedar**); and **Ray Lancaster** (**President's Choice** for his **Cascading Juniper**). Congratulations to the winners (all greatly deserving), and to everyone who participated in every way. Well done!



The winners of the 2015 Great Swamp Bonsai Society's Annual Display. Left to right: Mark Schmuck's Shimpaku Juniper, Peter Michienzi's Eastern Red Cedar, and Ray Lancaster's Cascading Juniper.

Recap: Special Meeting, Tuesday June 2nd: Guest **Pedro Morales**

About a dozen GSBS members enjoyed a wonderful evening with guest artist **Pedro Morales** from Puerto Rico, at the home of **Fred and Doris Aufschläger**. For his presentation Pedro designed and styled a large **San Jose Juniper** from Fred's collection, with impressive results (see below).

If you're new to our organization, plan on joining us for future guest presenters—it's always a worthy experience!



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

Bonsai Magazines to be Donated

Some time ago, GSBS came into an extensive collection of various bonsai magazines, in continuous series spanning from around 1990 to 2008, from the estate of David Yedwab. We have recently learned, from the ABS on-line newsletter, that the **Prairie View Bonsai Society** (Napierville, IL outside Chicago) lost their entire bonsai library in a house fire. They put out a notice for donations of bonsai books to rebuild the library. Fred Aufschläger (who has been maintaining the magazines on our behalf) offered the remaining Yedwab magazines in exchange for half the FedEx shipping cost. They accepted, with gratitude, and we are happy to help out our fellow bonsai enthusiasts. **Well done, Fred**, and thank you for handling the handover.

Request for Help—Publicity for our Annual Open House 2016

The Great Swamp Bonsai Society **needs a volunteer** to shoulder the responsibility of **publicizing our annual Open House**. (Your humble newsletter editor has taken on this role for several years, but as a school teacher June turns out to be a rather hectic month for tackling outside interests.)

The tasks are relatively simple but need to be managed in a timely manner. And, they all come in at the same time, in May. These include:

- **visiting the online websites** for the area news outlets (**NJ.com, Starledger.com, Dailyrecord.com, etc.**) and supplying the necessary details by filling in all the fields.
- There are also **online websites** for entering show information for **NJTV**.
- We also, we have found, need to **double-check the Morris County Parks publications** to make sure they have the correct info.
- Finally, this person should take responsibility for **putting up our banners** (we plan on having two new ones manufactured this year) out in front of the Arboretum's main entrance on Hanover Avenue, a few weeks before the event (this would be done by the Arboretum's personnel, but someone needs to check in and offer assistance if necessary—this year our banner was simply tied to the wooden fencing, in such a manner that passing motorists would be unlikely to read it; what we need is to have the banners staked out on the grass perpendicularly to the road, one banner facing each way.
- Some years, we have been able **to get an article in the Morristown Daily Record and/or the Newark Star Ledger**, with photos. This can be a great help, but only if the papers are contacted well in advance so that the article comes out the week before the show (we have had them go to press the Friday afterwards, and that doesn't boost attendance at all!)

It may look like a lot, but in fact most of it is accomplished in an hour or two at your computer, sending the same text to every website.

If interested (or, at least, willing), please contact John at huonia@aol.com.

OLD NEWS: Club meetings in July and August!

This year marks the start of **a new schedule for GSBS**. In response to club member input, we have decided that January and February have not been great months for bonsai meetings—too many of the members' trees are frozen to the ground or buried in snow, and the tropicals don't like coming out into the cold. Therefore, this year we are trying something different. Starting this summer, GSBS will be meeting in July and August (**at club members' homes—next summer we will have our usual classrooms**), with the usual meetings at the Arboretum in September through December. Then, taking a winter break for two months, to resume meetings in March.

The **August meeting** is slated to be held at the home of **Doris and Fred Aufschläger** – we are looking at Sunday August 15th, 1-5, but stay tuned for details.

Plant Care Tips for July

We are having what seems to be a very good summer for bonsai growing—not too hot (most of the time), with a little rain here and there.

It's generally too late to dig or repot hardy trees, though it can still, in a pinch, be done if you know what you're doing or have a smart friend (if your next-door neighbor is ripping out a yew hedge, and you want to save the plants, go ahead and give it a shot).

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. [JM]

We Still Have Bags of Akadama for sale!

Fred still has Akadama soil, in two granule sizes—2.5 mm (small grade) and 5.0 mm (medium grade). Bags are 18 liters, about 22 lbs. Cost per bag is \$40.00, which is a good price.

Remember to save your copper wire clippings!

Following the November 2014 meeting, club member Kerry Heck brought in our collected copper wire clippings to turn in for scrap. All together it was 23 pounds of copper and a pound of brass wire screen, which brought the club **\$55.00** – more than the price of an annual membership. If we all contribute in the coming year, I'm sure it could be a lot more, so please save the pieces and bring them to the meetings.

We are cleaning up our mailing list

Our email list has grown exponentially over the past few years, and we need to clean house. Last month, we sent out an APB requesting a response from any **non-members** who wish to continue receiving our newsletter. We have dropped the names of those who did not respond, so if you know someone who wants back in, have them drop us a line at huonia@aol.com and we'll gladly oblige. (We'll send out one more message to that list, to give them another chance at it.)

This year's schedule of topics—Please Let Us Know what you want!

The GSBS board will be meeting soon to put together **the 2015-2016 calendar of meeting topics**. As always, we appeal to you, the members, to **let us know what you'd like to do!** Please don't be shy—particularly you newcomers out there—our club exists for the education and benefit of its members, and we want to put together a program that will help you develop your skills and appreciation of the art of bonsai. **Please contact any of the addresses on page 6** with your ideas, suggestions, and preferences.

Calendar of Events for 2014–2015

July 18th (Saturday): **Informal meeting/picnic, 1-4 pm**, at the home of Kerry and Jill Heck (see page 1). Bring a tree and something to eat or drink!

August 15th (Sunday): **Informal meeting/picnic, 1-5 pm**, at the home of Fred and Doris Aufschläger. Stay tuned for details.

September 8th (Tuesday): Regular meeting at Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 7-10 pm. Topics to be determined.

Standing Offer for members of GSBS

Efrain Torres, owner and proprietor of **Manhattan Bonsai** in NYC, offers **FREE shipping** on all orders from members of the Great Swamp Bonsai Society! Specifically, you can order online or by phone, and he will deliver your merchandise to the following meeting of GSBS. This represents a considerable savings when it comes to ordering soil, pots, or trees, where shipping costs can be prohibitive. To take advantage of the offer, order online, select "Ground" for shipping, and put "GSBS member" in the comment field. (This is for **club members only**, please!) Visit Efrain's website at manhattanbonsai.com or phone him at (914) 793-1093.

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

Club Dues: **Dues are due at the September meeting.** It's only \$40 for an individual membership, or \$50 for a family membership, and helps to support our activities. Please see or contact club treasurer **Fred Aufschläger** (contact information and **membership form** on last page).

GSBS Contact Information:

President: Diego E Pablos neyamadoribonsai@gmail.com
Phone: 973.224.8139
289 Mount Hope Ave.
K-12, Rockaway Twp.
Dover, NJ 07801

Vice President: Bill Kasakoff bill.kasakoff@gmail.com

Treasurer: Fred Aufschläger fdauf@msn.com
Phone: 908.766.1359
17 Lakeview Drive
Bernardsville, NJ 07924

Newsletter: John Michalski huonia@aol.com

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)

Time: 7:00 – 10:00 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 Membership Registration:

Send to:

GSBS c/o Fred Aufshläger New Renewal
17 Lakeview Drive,
Bernardsville, NJ 07924 Individual (\$40.00) Family (\$50.00)

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

If Family Membership, please list other members:
