



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th**

September 2016 Newsletter

(Apologies for the lateness of this newsletter. Your faithful editor has been living in a jungle for most of August, and teaching duties the first week of September have absorbed most of the energy that remained.)

Next meeting: THIS TUESDAY, September 13th

We start off our GSBS year with our annual “**show and tell**” meeting—please bring along a tree or two, and show us what you achieved this summer—redesigns, new beginnings, problems overcome, hurdles hurdled, personal triumphs—we’d all love to see ‘em.

We will also present our tentative meeting schedule and take suggestions from those in attendance. Your input is gratefully accepted—GSBS exists for you, the members. Please feel free to let us know what you’d like to see.

In-house business: Dues are Coming Due!

Dues are normally collected at the September meeting. Please bring cash or check to **club treasurer Rich 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.

GSBS Member email/phone contact list

We are considering putting together a list of email and/or phone numbers, possibly with information on your areas of interest, **of paid GSBS members only**, to be **distributed to paid members only**. If you are (or will soon be) a paid member and would like this information withheld, please notify club V.P. Bill Kasakoff at Bill.Kasakoff@gmail.com. Thanks!

Bonsai in Vietnam

Hello all. I spent the first three weeks of this August in northern Vietnam (in Sapa, Muong Khuong, Meo Vac, and Ha Giang, for those of you with a map), right up against the border with the People's Republic of China. Some of you know of my interest in tropical dragonflies, and this was a research trip. But throughout the journey my senses were accosted by large-scale "street bonsai" to which the Vietnamese are obviously devoted. Here are some photos I took along the way. – JM







Plant Care Tips for September

It's about time to begin hardening-off your trees for the cold months ahead, and preparing a safe place to keep them. For the most part you should not attempt collecting, repotting, air-layering or drastic pruning at this time of year. For most of us, the drought has been a stress on our plants, so preparing them for winter is more crucial this year than ever.

Feeding: Please note that fertilization must be handled with sensitivity, or else you risk pushing too much new growth that will not harden-off sufficiently before the cold weather sets in. Following the needs of outdoor plantings, it can be said that deciduous trees may benefit from a low-nitrogen (that is, higher in potassium and phosphorous) feeding after the leaves have fallen but prior to November 1; this can promote bud formation and strengthen the trunk and root system for winter. Similarly, evergreens may be fed a low-nitrogen fertilizer, until the end of October. Most reference books refer to a single Autumn feeding.

Repotting and Training: Japanese texts recommend autumn repotting for most evergreens, but they also cite early spring for each of these—considering the difference in climate, I'd stick with early spring. Cherry and flowering quince are repotted by the Japanese in October. Many needled evergreens are most successfully wire-trained during the autumn months, but most sources say wait until October or November.

Winter protection: Start planning how and where you will store your trees for the winter. In a “normal” year—and when was the last time we had one of those?—most of our outdoor bonsai can stay virtually unprotected beyond Thanksgiving, but this holiday is commonly used as a start date for winter protection. If you have only a few trees, it may be possible to plant them directly into the ground, pot and all, but for larger collections it may prove useful to build some sort of cold-frame or organize some space in an unheated shed or some-such. You will not need these precautions for a few months yet, but it pays to plan ahead! [JM]

Watering continues to be the most important task during this month. Reduce feeding slightly at this point, and use low-nitrogen or nitrogen-free fertilizer. September is a good month to take hardwood cuttings. This is the last opportunity to pot up air layerings as they may not be able to root sufficiently to withstand the winter [if you wait longer]. Also remove wires from branches that have set properly and be aware of thickening branches and trunks on wired pines. [DY]

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

Meeting Dates for 2016–2017

***NOTE: Our club calendar is still WIDE OPEN –
suggestions welcome!***

September 13th: First meeting of 2016-2017 season. Please bring in one of more bonsai for “**show and tell**”—explain what you’ve achieved with the tree, or problems you’ve encountered, or questions for the group.

October 11th:

November 15th (3rd Tuesday):

December – NO MEETING

January 10th – Club holiday party and bonsai auction.

February – NO MEETING

March 14th:

April 11th:

May 9th:

June 4th (SUNDAY): GSBS Annual Bonsai Open House

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

GSBS Contact Information:

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Newsletter: John Michalski huonia@aol.com

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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 – 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 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:

