



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

*Next meeting: **Tuesday, September 12th***

*Topic: **Working with Junipers***

September 2017 Newsletter

It's a thin newsletter this month, folks. Not too much to report at the moment. Stay tuned for our updated calendar of events, coming soon.

This month's meeting (Tuesday, Sept 12th): Working with Junipers (and Show and Tell)

It's always nice to start out our fall season with something hands-on, and this month we'll be working with nursery junipers—and anything else you wish to bring along for ideas, assistance, or discussion.

Special Bonsai Exhibition – Far Hills, NJ, Sept 9–11

GSBS member, **Fred Aufschläger**, will be presenting an exhibit of approximately twenty of his bonsai at the **Leonard J. Buck Garden** from Sept. 9-15. Hours are M-F 10 am to 4 pm, Sat. 10 am to 5 pm, Sun. 12 to 5 pm.

The exhibit is free and open to the public outside the Administrative Building at 11 Layton Rd, Far Hills, NJ 07931 (908-234-2677).

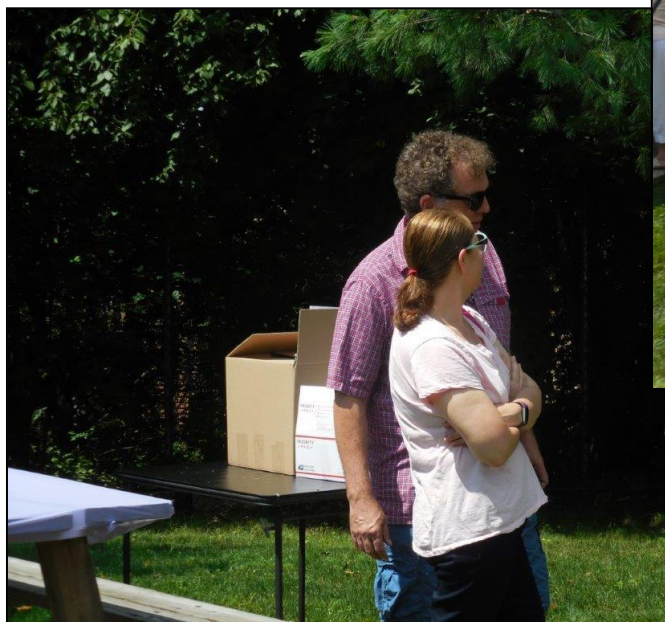
Fred has been a volunteer gardener at Buck, a unit of the Somerset Co. Parks and Recreation Commission, since 2001. His work is impressive and we encourage all of you to see for yourself.

Annual Dues are Due

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.

August meeting: Club Picnic

The Annual GSBS Picnic was held on Saturday, August 19th, hosted by club president Diego Pablos (with much help from his wife and kids) at their home in in Dover, NJ. There was a good turnout, the food and company were great as always, and the weather was just right. A number of plants were donated for a free raffle, and everybody walked away with something!



Plant Care Tips for September

It is 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.

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]

Meeting Dates for 2017–2018

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

September 12, 2017: **Juniper Workshop / Show and Tell**

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***

December, 2017: ***NO MEETING***

January, 2018: ***Topic To Be Determined***

February, 2018: ***NO MEETING***

March, 2018: ***Topic To Be Determined***

April, 2018: ***Topic To Be Determined***

May, 2018: ***Topic To Be Determined***

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

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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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:

