



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

*Next meeting: **Tuesday, October 24th***

*Guest artist **David Easterbrook***

October 2017 Newsletter

This month's meeting (Tuesday, October 24th): Afternoon Workshop and evening lecture/demo with Guest Artist David Easterbrook!

David is the former bonsai curator of the Montreal Botanic Gardens, and is known around the world for his stunning bonsai design and his fine sense of humor. He has been a club favorite for years, and we're always happy to have him back. If you have not seen David before, you are in for a treat! Feel free to bring a tree or two for comments or guidance, or just to show off for its fall color!

The **afternoon workshop** runs from 1:00 to 4:00 PM, in our usual meeting room, and is limited to 10 participants. Bring your own tree(s) to work on (we suggest no more than 3 per student), **\$50.00 per participant**. Silent observers can attend for \$10.00. Following the workshop the attendees break for dinner at a local restaurant (we usually split the check), and return for the **evening lecture/demo**, which is **free to the public**.

For the evening presentation, David will be working on a Hinoki Cypress, which will be raffled off at the end of the demonstration.

Note: this meeting will be held on the 4th Tuesday of the month, not our usual 2nd Tuesday of the month.



Last month's meeting: Designing Junipers, Show & Tell

We kicked off our 2017-2018 season starting with a session of "show and tell" followed by a hands-on workshop designing bonsai with nursery junipers. About 20 attendees were present, and it gave everyone a chance to mingle and get their hands dirty.





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.

Plant Care Tips for October

Tree growth is now drawing to a close, with leaves displaying a final array of color before winter. Watering can definitely be minimized at this time. Heavy branch pruning can be done on pines, and overwinter them in a cool greenhouse. Do not continue to fertilize—begin again in March. [DY]

It is hardening-off time for your trees, and by now you should have created a safe place to keep them for the cold months ahead. Certain types of trees are repotted or trained at this time of year—see the comments that follow.

Feeding: As reported in last month's newsletter, many authors suggest a single Autumn 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. 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.

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 late October or November.

Winter protection: By November you will need to have figured out how and where you will stash your hardy outdoor trees. Thanksgiving 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, and cover the plant with an upturned bushel basket. 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. Beware of late bursts of warm weather, if you plan to shed or cold-frame your trees, since these enclosures can remain surprisingly warm, causing trees to pop new buds or refuse to harden off. [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.



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-4pm. 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.
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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:
