



# Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm**

**JUNIPER THROWDOWN!**

**November 2016 Newsletter**

## Next meeting: **THIS TUESDAY, November 15<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM**

This month we will bring in a number of container-grown landscape junipers, for attendees to work in groups—analyzing the trunk, roots, and primary branches, finding the front, and performing preliminary design and wiring. It's a good hands-on activity and we encourage all members, at every level of experience, to come and join the fun. Bring your tools!

## October meeting: Guest artist David Easterbrook

### **One word, Benjamin:**

**Magnesium!** David's presentation began with his third or fourth look at a club-owned arborvitae, which he immediately assessed as being too weak for extensive design work that evening. Its yellowish color, David explained, was likely due to a deficiency in the mineral Magnesium, which he said is a common problem in container-grown bonsai which, he continued, are essentially hydroponic plants



due to the porous and inorganic nature of the potting medium we use. David recommends a semi-monthly watering with a solution of 1 heaping tablespoon of **Epsom Salts** per gallon of water, which he says will have significant and almost immediate impact on root health, which will extend to the improved condition of your bonsai overall. Water the mixture over foliage as well as potting medium, twice a month, and this routine can continue right up to winter storage time.

Following this discussion, David proceeded to set the initial style for a field-grown **Japanese White (or 5-needle) Pine**, which had been dug with a backhoe the day before in Canada. The tree presented a few challenges, not least of which was the size and shape of the trunk. David, with assistance from several club members, cut the trunk back, peeled the stump into an interesting and tapered bit of deadwood, and brought the lowest branch of the original tree into position to act at the main element of the design. It was another great demo by one of GSBS' favorite guests!









## In-house business: 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 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.

## Plant Care Tips for November

During November deciduous and evergreen trees can remain out until about the last week of the month. Prepare trees for their winter setting, whether it be a cold frame or whatever type of winter protection you may have. Prior to setting them in their winter quarters, check for insects and spray and remove all dead leaves and branches. Thinking ahead, write down and plan what you need to do for spring and choose which trees you will work on first. Tropicals should already be indoors and you can continue to water, feed, repot and prune them all through the winter. If they are in a heated dry atmosphere, mist frequently. [DY]



## Meeting Dates for 2016–2017

***NOTE: Our club calendar is not yet filled – suggestions welcome!***

November 15<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday): Group hands-on design with nursery junipers.

December – NO MEETING

January 10<sup>th</sup> – Club holiday party and bonsai auction.

February – NO MEETING

March 14<sup>th</sup>: We select the 3 trees to represent GSBS at the 2017 Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies' (MABS) Spring Festival. Main meeting topic to be determined.

April 7-9: This year's Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies' (MABS) Spring Festival.

April 11<sup>th</sup>: Afternoon workshop (1:00-4:30) with guest artist **Boon Manakitivipart**; evening presentation by same 6:30-9:30 pm.

May 9<sup>th</sup>: Topic to be determined.

June 4<sup>th</sup> (SUNDAY): GSBS Annual 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:

President: Diego E Pablos  
[neyamadoribonsai@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:bill.kasakoff@gmail.com)

Secretary: Mark Schmuck [lofty235@verizon.net](mailto:lofty235@verizon.net)

Treasurer: Rich Meyers [spruce80@verizon.net](mailto:spruce80@verizon.net)  
80 Kenvil Ave  
Succasunna N J  
07876

Newsletter: John Michalski [huonia@aol.com](mailto:huonia@aol.com)

## 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:**

\_\_\_\_\_

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