



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **Saturday, November 7th** (see below)

November 2020 Newsletter

November Meeting: Winter Care – Saturday, November 7th (rain date Sunday, November 8th), at the home of club member Mark Schmuck, 12:00 – 4:00 PM

November's meeting will be hosted and led by Mark Schmuck of Rockaway, NJ, who will walk us through his bonsai collection and explain a variety of techniques for **protecting your bonsai over the winter months**. You are encouraged to bring specimens of your own for discussion, comment, or suggestions and assistance.

Feel free to bring a folding chair and perhaps a snack, treat, or beverage of your choice. The address is: **235 East Main St., Rockaway, NJ 07866, at the corner of E. Main and Van Duyne Ave. Park on Van Duyne.**

Hope to see you then!



Photo of Mark & Sheila's garden taken at our June meeting.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: All About Pines – Saturday, September 3rd

Our September meeting was hosted by Rick and Leslie Myers at their home in Succasunna, NJ, and was attended by around a dozen club members. The topic was officially “All About Pines,” and while Rick had several species of pine bonsai on display and available for discussion, the gathering was informal and several members brought trees of various sorts for assistance and advice.

It was, as always, very nice to see everyone, and another great opportunity to get out, stretch your legs, and talk bonsai with like-minded people.

We appreciate the reticence of many club members to join public gatherings during the current health situation, and we respect your choice to stay home, but know that we also observe social distancing as much as possible and all present wear face masks when in close quarters—so if you’ve been aching to get out and mingle a little bit, do consider joining us for the November meeting at Mark and Sheila’s.

And once again, thanks to Rick and Leslie for hosting!



Left to right: Mark Sanders, Zach Bier, and Timothy Kuhlman discuss something to do with little trees in pots.

More photos from September meeting



Mark Schmuck (left) offers practical advice on the care of tropical bonsai to new club member Samarth Nagarkar.



Rick Myers (left) discusses Red Pines and Japanese Black Pines with Greg Birrer.

More photos from September meeting



Joan Chen, Mark Schmuck, and Zach Bier discuss the merits of some recently-purchased dwarf Scots Pines.



A view across Rick's bonsai garden.

Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies' (MABS) 2021 Spring Festival CANCELLED

From MABS President Diego Pablos:

One October 29th, the MABS Board voted unanimously to cancel next year's festival, due to the NJ pandemic guidelines, "Indoor gatherings must be limited to 25 people or 25% of a room's capacity -- whichever number is lower."

And, we didn't feel comfortable spending money on advertisement, etc, for the festival to be ultimately cancelled.

We are going to try and have the original All American guest come back in 2022, and for 2021, we decided to do a virtual exhibit, details on these as they develop.

Keep safe!

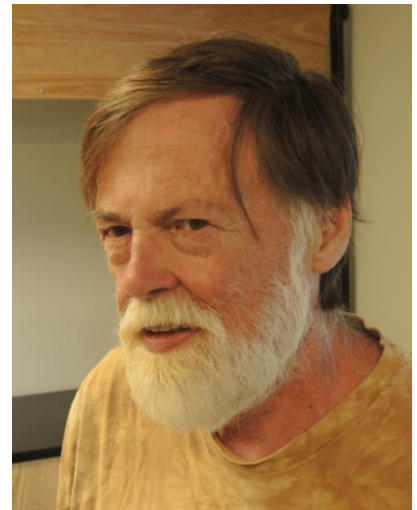
Regards,

Diego

Farewell to a long-time member, and bonsai that need a new home

Founding club member **Brian O'Byrne** has written to inform us that he and his family will be moving to Canada in the spring, and he therefore needs to find new homes for his existing bonsai collection. Brian will bring around a dozen trees to the November meeting being held at the home of Mark & Sheila Schmuck in Rockaway, NJ, on Saturday, November 3rd, from noon to 4:00 PM, so if interested in helping Brian (and supplementing your own collection), please plan on attending.

We will miss you, Brian, and we wish you and your family all the best on your new adventure.



No Dues for 2020–2021 Season!

As we will not, any time soon, be meeting at the Arboretum, and as our club treasury is already ample to meet our meager needs, dues will be suspended until further notice. If you have already paid your dues for the coming season, you may request a refund, or have them applied to next year, at your discretion.

Repeat: GSBS Facebook Page / GSBS YouTube Channel

A reminder that our club **Facebook Page** is up and running, and if you haven't yet checked in, come and join the fun! This is a wonderful venue for anyone in the group to post photos, ask questions, or chime in with ideas and opinions about other people's work and accomplishments. To contribute to the discussion, all you have to do is go to the page and request to join the group—once your request has been accepted, you will be able to post photos, videos, and comments. (Don't worry, you won't get "friended" to death—this group is being run fairly tightly.)



We have also established a Great Swamp Bonsai Society **YouTube Channel**, which at the moment features only a few amateur video clips by yours truly (John Michalski), expounding or demonstrating simple maintenance techniques for different species used in bonsai. It shows promise as a venue for club members to share their knowledge, or their bonsai collection, with the membership. If you have something you'd like to upload, get in touch with me at huonia@aol.com. Thanks!

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. Tropical bonsai 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]

GSBS Sales Table – “Virtual” Sales Table

Whenever we eventually return to something like a normal schedule, we will continue with our recent addition of a “sales table” for any bonsai-related articles that club members wish to offer for sale at our regular meetings. You simply bring your wares and post the prices with them.

In the meantime, feel free to post announcements on our club [Facebook Page](#) if you have something to sell, or something you are seeking. **(Non-commercial sales only, please. This is not intended as advertising space for full-time professionals.)** This is a good way for members to move along those items they no longer wish to keep, while offering same to other people who might cherish them! So please feel free!

GSBS Swap Meet

Please feel free to bring any bonsai-related items that you wish to sell or swap to any of our meetings. We will give you a moment to announce what you have so that those present can approach you as they wish.

Save and Bring In Your Discarded Copper Bonsai Wire

Please remember to save and (eventually) bring in those wire clippings. **It helps if you cut your wire into short (3-6 inch) lengths, as it packs more easily for transport and sale.** 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.

Keep those Topic Suggestions Coming!

A reminder to feel free to send your ideas and topic suggestions to any of the Board Members listed at the back of this newsletter. GSBS is always looking for new and interesting topics that will appeal to the various educational needs of our diverse membership. The club exists for you, so don't be shy with your recommendations.

We especially welcome volunteers who wish to plan and lead presentations and workshops, so that the club may benefit from the wide array of experience contained within our membership.

Calendar of Events for 2020-2021

Obviously, our calendar is currently a work in progress. But keep those suggestions coming—we will be back on track sooner or later!

WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR UPDATES.

November 7th (Saturday, 12:00-4:00 PM): Winter Care, followed by a design demo/hands on assistance. Hosted at the home of Mark and Sheila Schmuck in Rockaway, NJ. Rain date: Sunday, November 8th.

December: *NO MEETING*

January: (Traditionally, this is the month we host our annual Holiday Party and Bonsai Auction. This year it all depends on whether or not we can find a comfortable place to hold a meeting in January. **Stay tuned!**)

February: *NO MEETING*

March: Repotting Workshop. Date and venue to be determined.

**April 16-18th: Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies (MABS) Spring Festival
CANCELLED**

April: Date, venue, and topic to be determined.

May/June: Date, venue, and topic to be determined.

GSBS Contact Information:

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Past President: Diego E Pablos
neyamadoribonsai@gmail.com
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Vice President: Mark Sanders dealmakr@att.net

Secretary: Mark Schmuck lofty235@verizon.net

Treasurer: Rick Myers spruce80@verizon.net
80 Kenvil Ave
Succasunna N J
07876

Newsletter: John Michalski 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 John Michalski
223 Mount Kemble Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960

DUES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Great Swamp Bonsai Society Membership Registration:

Send to:

GSBS c/o Rick Myers **New** **Renewal**
80 Kenvil Avenue
Succasunna, NJ 07876. **Individual (\$ N/A)** **Family (\$ N/A)**

Name(s): _____ **Email:** _____

Address: _____ **Phone:** (_____) _____

If Family Membership, please list other members:
