



Great Swamp Bonsai Society

Next meeting: **Tuesday, December 8th**

Time: 7-9:30 pm

December 2015 Newsletter

December Meeting: **Club Holiday Party and Bonsai Auction !!!**

Bring some food

Bring some tools

Bring your DVDs



IT'S PARTY TIME!

So, bring in your favorite snacks, goodies, hors d'oeuvres, or (non-alcoholic) beverages – also cups, plates, utensils, napkins to help spread a little holiday cheer!

ALSO: bring any bonsai-related materials—trees, pots, tools, books, DVDs, magazines, accent plants, etc.—that you'd like to put up for auction! GSBS gets 10% of the proceeds (or more, if you feel so inclined).

Things have been changing for GSBS at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, and we have recently been instructed that (a) no one is to enter the building before 7:00 pm, and (b) that we must vacate the premises by 9:30 pm.

As we have a tighter time slot than usual this year, for our **annual holiday party and bonsai auction**, members should plan on arriving by 7:00 pm sharp. Those with food etc. should be prepared to set up on the back tables right away; those with auction items should be prepared to set up on the side tables immediately--notify Fred and Juan as you come in, so that they can register your auction items as efficiently as possible. **Auction to begin promptly at 7:30**, snacks and goodies to be enjoyed throughout the evening.

Hope to see you all there!

Please Get Your Dues In

If you haven't yet paid up, please bring cash or check to club treasurer **Fred Aufschläger** at the **October** meeting. 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.

We Still Have Bags of Akadama for sale!

Fred still has Akadama soil, in two granule sizes—2.5 mm (small grade) and 5.0 mm (medium grade). Bags are 14 liters, about 22 lbs. Cost per bag is \$40.00, which is a good price.

Remember to save your copper wire clippings!

We collect discarded copper bonsai wire, to be sold as scrap, so please remember to save your clippings and bring them to the meetings. Most years we have enough to equal one or two paid memberships, so it all goes to support club supplies and activities.

Plant Care Tips for December

Start putting Trident Maples, as well as Japanese Black Pines, in a somewhat protected environment for the winter—these species can die if their roots are allowed to freeze too deeply. Continue to spray the trees with an insecticide and fungicide on dry sunny days. [DY]

By now your deciduous bonsai have shed all but a few of their leaves or needles, and in spite of some unseasonably mild weather, we are looking straight into the gaping maw of the cold season. Your trees need a well-deserved rest, but you needn't go dormant yourselves! It's a great time of year to assess the design of your deciduous trees and wire your evergreen trees, to plan your repotting schedule, mix or purchase bonsai soil, clean up and sharpen your tools, read some good books and periodicals, and travel the countryside looking for suitable material from the field.

Any non-hardy trees should be inside by now, of course. No more fertilizer for your hardy (outdoor) trees, and you should be able to reduce your watering schedule soon. Remember, leafless trees need less water, but don't allow the soil to dry out completely! This holds true throughout the winter months. Your hardy trees are usually placed into winter protection by early December (if the weather holds up the way it has, you may not need to shelter them for some time yet), so by the Holidays you definitely need to have them stored safely for the season.

Remember, winter protection is chiefly concerned with: (a) preventing the soil from repeatedly freezing and thawing; (b) preventing wind from dehydrating the upper portion of the plant; and (c) preventing the soil from drying out completely. You may also have to concern yourself with rodents that sometimes feed on the bark of dormant trees. If you store your trees in a shed or other enclosure, don't do it too early or you may encourage new growth if we get continued warm weather. Wiring may be performed on most conifers during the winter months, but deciduous trees are often too brittle to survive branch-bending, so postpone wiring on leafy trees until spring. [JM]

Novices and non-members always welcome!

Come and plan to get your hands dirty!

Calendar of Events for 2015–2016

You will note our calendar has several openings left. ***Please forward any topic ideas***, and look for updates in future newsletters.

December 8th: Holiday Party and Club Bonsai Auction. Please bring a favorite food or non-alcoholic beverage, along with any trees, accent plants, pots, tools, books, magazines, DVDs, or any other bonsai-related materials you wish to sell. GSBS gets 10% of the proceeds. Oh yeah—and your **checkbook!**

January-February: NO REGULAR MEETINGS.

March: Topic to be determined.

April 12th: Topic to be determined. – *Repotting workshop?*

April 18th: **MONDAY – Guest artist Bjorn Bjornholm, fresh from MABS.** **Afternoon paid workshop** (details to follow), followed by informal dinner at local restaurant and **evening lecture/demo (free to public).**

May 10th: Topic to be determined.

June 5th: First **Sunday** in June, **Annual Club Bonsai Open House**, open to public 10am-4 pm. Club members arrive by 9:00 am to help set up.

July 12th: Topic to be determined.

Standing Offer for members of GSBS

Efrain Torres, owner and proprietor of **Manhattan Bonsai** in NYC, offers **FREE shipping** on all orders from members of the Great Swamp Bonsai Society! Specifically, you can order online or by phone, and he will deliver your merchandise to the following meeting of GSBS. This represents a considerable savings when it comes to ordering soil, pots, or trees, where shipping costs can be prohibitive. To take advantage of the offer, order online, select “Ground” for shipping, and put “GSBS member” in the comment field. (This is for **club members only**, please!) Visit Efrain’s website at manhattanbonsai.com or phone him at (914) 793-1093.

Club Dues: **Dues are due at the September meeting.** It's only \$40 for an individual membership, or \$50 for a family membership, and helps to support our activities. Please see or contact club treasurer **Fred Aufschläger** (contact information and **membership form** on last page).

GSBS Contact Information:

President: Diego E Pablos neyamadoribonsai@gmail.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 – 10:00 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 Fred Aufshläger ___ New ___ Renewal
17 Lakeview Drive,
Bernardsville, NJ 07924 ___ Individual (\$40.00) ___ Family (\$50.00)

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

If Family Membership, please list other members:

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