

December
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Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



President's Message

Seasons Greetings Friends 🌲

I hope you have tucked your trees away with care already, especially our friends from Buffalo and Erie! I just got mine in this weekend and they all fit, well almost, there is a small outside protected space. An important reminder: Be aware AND prepare for furry critters such as mice, moles, voles & SHREWS!

I trapped one this morning, they are nasty and all can damage or kill your trees if you are not watchful. Really looking forward to our Holiday meeting night which is always a great time with an abundance of tasty food items, the auction of Bonsai and Bonsai related items and of course Bionic Bills Bonsai Adventure program which should be really fun again this year! This event is a major fund raiser for our Club so please be generous with your donations AND your BIDS. If you have not yet subscribed to Bill's Blog or International Bonsai Digital Magazine, do it today as a Christmas present to yourself and don't forget to thank Bill for sharing these gifts with us!!

Markl



"The kids" waiting for the bus to Pacific Bonsai Expo in California.

NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday December 13 at 6:30 p.m.
Holiday party and Auction**

We will gather with food while we warm up our bidding paddles for our annual Holiday party and auction. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. It is up to you whether to eat dinner first, but there is usually more than enough food. The club will provide the ever famous shrimp, coffee, tea and some cold drinks (all non alcoholic per Lodge Rules), and we'll share some food, stories about putting away our trees, plans for work on our trees in the spring, hoops for new trees and more.

Bill Valavanis will share a slide show of his recent travels to California, Japan and North Carolina (oh, c'mon Bill, surely you could have fit in another continent or two!), and then we'll get down to business with our Mystery auction.

This MYSTERY AUCTION is a MAJOR fundraiser for our club (gotta pay for that shrimp!) and helps us keep our coffers in good shape to support excellent speakers. Bring *wrapped* bonsai, bonsai related items, and other holiday related items (such as wine, cookies, wreaths, decor, etc) *with no gag gifts*, and also bring your check book so you can bid early and often. If your item is bonsai related, please label it as such, and if your item is special (important tree, big deal pot) please make sure it is only loosely wrapped or not at all. This is a great opportunity to pick up some finds, and to clean out your cellar to make room for more pots!

**Brighton Town Lodge at Buckland Park
1341 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY 14618**

Our Refreshment Manager, Marti Macinski will provide shrimp, coffee, and individual drinks. It would be helpful for you to let her know you plan to come and what you will bring: email Marti at billboard@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org.

2022 Programs:

- December 13 - 6 pm Holiday party and Auction

see page 3 for dates for 2023, and for some more info about the upcoming events

Suiseki Corner



Bill's Blogs from his recent travels provide the Suiseki inspiration this month. The top photo is from the new Kyoto Bonsai Garden, which opened in March of 2021. "This walkway of stones of opposite the entryway of bonsai created by Maahiko Kimura. Directly opposite these bonsai is a special display of stones, originally from the Saburo Kato Mansei-en Bonsai Garden in Omiya. These stones have been carefully arranged leading visitors from the ancient Chinese taste, the origin of stone appreciation and bonsai, to the contemporary Japanese taste of stones." From Valavanis Bonsai Blog November 27.



The two pictures below the walkway of suiseki are recent photos from the Kyoto Bonsai Garden, while the picture below of the Near Mountain suiseki from Japan (left) and the Distant mountain stone named "White Clouds" are pictures from Bill's online magazine article about the opening of the museum.

www.internationalbonsaionline.com, the 2021/No. 2 issue. Many thanks to Bill, as always, for some inspirational photos and commentary!



This (right) is a repeat from the October and November Billboard, but there are more details available. Bill Valavanis and Kora Dalager will lead a tour to the Bonsai World of Japan, featuring the Kokufu Bonsai Exhibition, Nippon Suiseki Exhibition and the finest bonsai gardens in Omiya and Tokyo, with an additional trip to Tokoname, where some of the finest bonsai containers are produced. (Bet you can't buy just one!)

If you are thinking about joining this tour, reach out to Bill for more information, and ask club members at the next meeting about their experiences.

TOUR & EXPLORE THE JAPANESE BONSAI WORLD
With Wm. N. Valavanis & Kora Dalager

VALUE PRICED BONSAI TOURS

TOKONAME VISIT & BUY POTS DIRECT

FEBRUARY 7-15, 2023

Want To See The Best Bonsai In Japan?
Join the hundreds of people from around the world who have joined our popular bonsai tours for over 25 years to see private collections, exhibitions and some of the finest bonsai masterpiece in Japan.
You will not be disappointed!

Pictures from Pacific Bonsai Expo

Bill Valavanis and Mark Arpag drove to California to participate in the Pacific Bonsai Expo with Mark driving all the way there and back, and Bill blogging all the way there and back. If you don't get Bill's blog, you really should. There are pictures of Mark's and Bill's displays at that show, along with one picture of Michael Hagedorn's Shore Piece display with a metal suspension stand - for something different!



Bill's Japan trip

We're not sure Bill got a full night of sleep between returning from California and flying out to Japan! Nevertheless, he continues to put together very informative blogs, with pictures that make us all really want to go along on the next trip, right?! These are from the new Kyoto Bonsai Museum. Thanks Bill, for letting us travel with you vicariously!



2023 Program dates:

- January 24 - 7 pm Harvey Carapella, Cascade Bonsai
- February 28 - 7 pm TBD
- March 28 - 7 pm Bill Valavanis, spruce bonsai with workshop in the afternoon
- April 25 - 7 pm TBD
- May 21 - 9 - 5 Club Show at Golisano Autism Center: 50th Anniversary Club Show!!!
- June 27- 7 pm Club Picnic and Auction
- July 25 - 7 pm Field Trip to Dwarf Conifer Garden
- August 22 - 7 pm Bring your own Tree
- September 9 & 10 - National Bonsai Exhibition
- September 11 - 7 pm Meeting: *note special date as we will offer a speaker who will stay after the National Bona Exhibition*

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SHOHIN BONSAI FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Mame Shohin Bonsai, Burning Bush

This Semi-Cascade bonsai almost has everything going for it: 1. Great trunk taper, 2. Perfect proportion between the tree and pot size, 3. Clear Focal Point (the Magenta foliage), and 4. Ramification of twigs. The only problem I have with it, is the foliage in the upper left corner, it is growing back in the opposite direction of the rest of the tree. The base of the tree is moving from left to right, the upper left corner is moving from right to left, creating visual conflict rather than overall harmony of direction. The directional movement of the base of the tree must always be maintained throughout the tree. This can be easily corrected by pruning back the upper left corner foliage. The Magenta foliage and Violet pot are an Analogous color combination. Analogous colors are made up of each other and Harmonize together rather than Color contrasting each other. Although, Analogous colors can have a Light & Dark contrast even though the colors Harmonize.

Harvey Carapella



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Please submit any ideas for the Billboard to Marti & Tom. If you have ideas for the Billboard, please email Marti & Tom: billboard@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org



New FREE Bimonthly International BONSAI OnLine Magazine

After publishing International BONSAI for 42 years and producing 164 issues, Bill Valavanis has decided to suspend the printed edition and start producing the magazine in a FREE digital bimonthly format in order to expand his educational offerings. International BONSAI OnLine will continue with the high standards of quality introduced to English language bonsai magazines, and continues to be the first and only professional bonsai magazine published in the United States. In the first month of publication over 16,000 people have viewed the magazine and over and over 1,300 have subscribed. Check it out, and subscribe FREE too! www.internationalbonsaionline.com