

July
2023

Volume 53
Number 9

Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



President's Message

Greetings Friends

The summer is in full swing and our Bonsai are finally growing full speed ahead! Please remember to examine your trees for insects, insect damage and fungus as they also are in full swing. Our Picnic and auction was well attended and I was pleased with how so many members pitched in to make it a success! The food was delicious, the company was lively and our auctioneer was enthusiastic and entertaining and our members generous with both donations and bidding. Thanks to everyone who contributed to make it a great event again!

We are once again a sponsor for the 8th US National Bonsai Exhibition held in our own "backyard". If you are a member I consider it a must attend event short of death or serious illness! In addition, there will be opportunities to volunteer to help with this world class Bonsai show. See more details on page 3, and sign up now! This month we were invited to a very special private secret garden, always a special time.

Mark



Mark forgot to send a picture with his message, so I took the liberty of sharing this photo of his display at the 7th National. Mark had worked through this display with us at the Shohin study group during the August meeting before the 7th National.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, July 25 6:30 pm

The Jerry and Karen Kral Garden

Our club has traditionally toured interesting gardens in the greater Rochester area. This year, we will visit the Jerry and Karen Kral Garden, a great treat. We will all be inspired to get right back to work at our home gardens! We will meet at the garden at 6:30 pm.

To read about our Club's previous visit to this special garden, see Bill Valavanis' blog: <https://valavanisbonsaiblog.com/2018/07/24/the-jerry-kral-garden/>

**The Jerry and Karen Karl Garden
900 North Winton Road
Rochester, NY**

Because we are meeting at a private garden, there will be no refreshments provided. Please bring your own water, coffee, snacks, and more.

2023 Programs:

- July 25 6:30 pm - Tour Dwarf Conifer Garden
- August 22 7:00 pm - Bring Your Own Tree - lots of advice from our more experienced members
- September 9 & 10 - US National Bonsai Exhibition
- September 11 - 7 pm Meeting: *note special Monday date as we will offer a speaker who will stay after the National Bonsai Exhibition, the speaker will be Koji Hiramatsu, and he will offer a workshop in the afternoon, from 1 - 4. The cost will be \$75.00. Register with Treasurer Diane Koretz at bsunytreasurer@gmail.com*

8th U.S. National Exhibition



The 2021 Welcome Garden set the tone for the show as visitors entered.

If you were there and want to remember how awesome the 2021 show was, or if you have not been to a US National Exhibition and want to get an idea of what to expect, take this Virtual Tour of the 7th U.S. National Exhibition: <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=Xy3gi73A8YZ>



Beautiful trees in a beautiful display



A well stocked vendor area will meet all your bonsai needs.



Tour the show with an expert during a critique.

This is not a local show!
Past Exhibitions have elicited this praise: "There is no difference in the character of Japanese and American Bonsai". September 2009 Kinbon, Japan's premier bonsai magazine, and "This is the highest level bonsai Exhibition in America." also Kinbon, the September 2011 issue.

How to be a part of the U.S. National Exhibition

This is a BIG show, with LOTS of moving parts. And you can see from the quotes on the previous page, and also in the brochure for the Exhibition, the show is very well respected on an International level. There are many opportunities for you to help make it happen. It takes more than a village to raise this child, and we want your participation. We are hoping that you will sign up for at least a few of the opportunities. To indicate your willingness to help, send an email to Bill Valavanis and Marti Macinski.

This is from the Billboard after the last show, and will give you an idea of everything that goes on: *Wow!!! What an experience! A whirlwind of trees, stones, kusamono, pots and people - all coming together to share their love of the art form of Bonsai. Our club was a sponsor in so many ways: funding support and lots of physical labor and moral support. We collectively arranged more than 350 tables, loaded, unloaded and built the infrastructure, ironed curtains, hung skirting, covered tables, hung curtains and bunting, arranged gold tassels, placed bonsai trees, companion plantings and suiseki, moved trees to be photographed and moved them back, watered, and then took everything apart and back to Bill's. Many of us will have to buy the Commemorative Album to see everything, because we missed it while it was happening. It was exciting to watch all the Exhibitors and Vendors express their appreciation and gratitude to Bill and his volunteers for putting the show together.*

Here is the day by day list of opportunities to help:

Monday, September 4 (yes, that's Labor Day) - be at International Bonsai Arboretum at 9:30 am to load the truck with many of the display structures for the show. If you have a truck and can make it available on Monday and Tuesday, to load and unload, that is very helpful.

Tuesday, September 5 - 9:30 am. Drive from IBA to Total Sports Experience, 435 West Commercial Street, in East Rochester, and unload all the display structures. Probably half a day.

Wednesday, September 6 - all day, starting at 9 am. Help place tables and framing, iron and hang curtains and bunting to set up the show. No experience is required for this, but a strong back is helpful.

Thursday, September 7 - all day, starting at 9 am. Finish placing tables, curtains and all structures in the morning. Trees begin to arrive in the afternoon. Help unload trees and vendors. We also need a few people to help with moving trees in and out of place to be photographed for the commemorative album.

Friday, September 8 - 9 am until noon. Help finishing placement of tables, trees, vendors, curtains and more. Everyone is kicked out at noon for the judging to begin. We also need a few people to help with moving trees in and out of place to be photographed for the commemorative album.

Saturday, September 9 - 9 am until 5. Help direct visitors and watch trees, which also involves "security" in the form of preventing people from touching the trees. We also need a few people to help with moving trees in and out of place to be photographed for the commemorative album.

Sunday, September 10 - 9 am until 4 pm. Same as Saturday. AND we need a few people to help break down the displays, load trucks, and deliver everything back to IBA. It would also be helpful to have 3-5 people at IBA on Monday morning to unload and put everything away



Insert your picture here, and help go from the 3 photos on the left to the view on the right!

Shohin Feature



Mame Shohin Bonsai, Japanese Winterberry, Cherry, Serissa, Princess Pussy Willow, Weeping Forsythia, Japanese White Pine and Spindle Tree

A great use of Seedlings and Cuttings, without having to wait for a long period of time. These are interesting examples of Thimble Size Mame Bonsai, but this size bonsai are very difficult to keep alive. Let them dry out for only one day or less and they probably will be dead or almost dead. A few ways to avoid that problem are:

1. Use a tray with a half to an inch of aquarium gravel to set the Mame Bonsai on top of, fill the tray with water, the gravel will keep the trees out of the water, but supplies plenty of humidity and some water will wick up in to the small pots.
2. Similar idea, use a wet piece of outdoor carpet to set the trees on, it will supply plenty of humidity and some water will wick up in to the small pots or substitute the aquarium gravel with the carpet in a tray.
3. Use small plastic pots with wet bonsai soil in them, set the Mame Bonsai pots on top of the soil, it will supply plenty of humidity and some water will wick up in to the small pots. This method is also good for keeping the tree and pot from blowing over, the sides of the plastic pot will hold up the small trees.
4. Harvey Carapella

Billboard is brought to you by:

President: Mark Arpag
bsunypresident@gmail.com

Co-editors & photographers:
Marti & Tom Macinski
bsunynewsletter@gmail.com

Contributors: Mark Arpag, Bill Valavanis, Marti & Tom Macinski, Harvey Carapella,
Please submit any ideas for the Billboard to Marti & Tom. If you have ideas for the BillBoard,
please email Marti & Tom: bsunynewsletter@gmail.com



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 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