

November
2023

Volume 54
Number 11

Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



President's Message

Greetings Friends,

Our October meeting celebrated our Society's 50th Year and was a totally unique program featuring three Formal Exhibition Style displays by past Presidents Harvey Carapella, Bill Valavanis and your current President, Mark Arpag. Each display was unique, representative of the Artist's style and taste and together created a beautiful harmonious view. (see pictures on page 2.)

Those that attended were treated to three simultaneous discussions and also unique demos illustrating tips on care, development and refinement of three different species! Based on the Cash grateful members placed in the tip jars it was well received and the funds all went to the Club, thanks for your support!

Bill is traveling to Japan this month and two days after he returns we are once again going to exhibit at the Winter Silhouette AND Bill will be vending too. Unfortunately the Club will NOT be putting on a display at the Hungerford Gallery like we have in the past. I would like to have the Club get back to this in 2024 and will be looking for members interested in supporting this community event.

Our November meeting is one of our Club's favorites - the Design Studio. This is a great opportunity for members to bring trees in for design advice from three Presidents - Harvey, Jim and Mark. You may bring up to three trees but we may not get to all three depending on participation . It's amazing what design possibilities we three can uncover unlocking a great future!

On another note, remember to be grateful & thankful for all your blessings all year not only at Thanksgiving, I truly believe one can never be happy unless they have gratitude in their heart. Ok, sermon over, see you soon!

Mark



NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, November 28 7:00 pm

Mark Arpag, Harvey Carapella and Jim Dolce will offer artistic direction, creative guidance, constructive criticism, design counsel, general enlightenment, hints, tips and pointers, all to help you think about the short and long term design of your tree(s). If you participated last year and have a "before" picture of that tree, please bring it, along with the tree as you have followed the advice you received. Bring another tree this year, and please take a before picture, and then we'll ask you to show us how the tree develops over the year. Perhaps you want to think about a tree you would like to include in our upcoming Club Show in May - now is the time to get that tree on the right path.



Brighton Town Lodge at Buckland Park

The Brighton Town Lodge is at 1341 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY near the corner of Westfall and Clinton. Our Refreshment Manager, Marti Macinski, will provide coffee, individual drinks and treats., and will be calling some of you to help with set up and take down. Don't wait - you can volunteer by sending an email to: mmacinski@mac.com

2023 & 2024 Programs:

- See page 4 for the complete listing

50th Anniversary Club meeting - it was Very Special



BONSAI DEVELOPMENT & REFINEMENT

Three of our past presidents: Marc Arpag, Harvey Carapella and Bill Valavanis presented a demonstration at our October meeting on **Bonsai Development and Refinement**. These skilled and knowledgeable past presidents have a combined experience of over 150 years of bonsai creating, teaching and displaying award winning bonsai. They know what to do, when to do it and how to do it and they shared their techniques and thoughts. Each artist brought bonsai from their private collections and worked on them at the same time.

The display section included an individual table for a formal display, and each spoke about their display and the many detailed choices involved in putting together that display.

This meeting was an incredible learning opportunity at a very high level of bonsai artistry. We are privileged to have such artists as leading members of our Bonsai Society.



Design Studio November meeting



Always a popular and productive meeting, the Design Studio allows members to get excellent advice and planning for the future of our trees, from three very special and advanced Bonsai artists.

These are some pictures from last year. Bring your Bonsai trees (no nursery stock, please) and let Mark Arpag, Harvey Carapella, and Jim Dolce help you think about the future of your tree(s). Bring up three trees, and we'll see how much we can cover.

If you participated last year and have any photos of that tree/those trees and how they developed over the year, please bring them to the meeting, and also send us a copy to include in the Billboard.



Holiday Party Planning

Mark your calendars for December 19. Our annual Holiday Party and Auction is a fun get together and a chance to socialize a bit. It is also a wonderful fundraiser for our club. Clean out your shelves now, and bring your extra/unused/duplicate pots, tools and more. Trees are also welcome. Most importantly, bring your cash, checkbooks and cards and plan to do some holiday shopping.

Our dues are increasing, well below the inflation rate, and this fundraiser keeps us in funds to offer our members excellent programming throughout the year. And we are very fortunate that our members do not charge when they lead our programs, so we save lots of money to be able to offer "out of town experts".

2023 and 2024 Programs:

- November 28- 7 pm Design studio led by Mark Arpag. Bring one of your trees for input. Our in house experts will help you think through the design of your tree.
- December 19 - 6:30 pm Annual Holiday Party and fundraising auction. Start sorting now and plan to donate your extra items to our fundraising auction. No gag gifts, wrap items as possible, and bring your checkbooks to help support your club.
- January 23 - Harvey Carapella: Literati
- February 27 - TBD
- March 26 - Bill Valavanis Topic TBD
- April 23 - Suthin Sukosolvisit
- May 18 & 19 - Club Show
- June 25 - Annual picnic and auction
- July 23 - Bring your own tree
- August 27 - Bring your own tree
- September 24 - TBD

Shohin Bonsai Japanese White 5 Needle Pine



This Informal Upright Pine has a massive feel, even for a small tree. The foliage is very full, you can only see a couple of branches, no negative space to see through the tree making the silhouette of the tree the Focal Point. Making the foliage silhouette the most important feature instead of the branches and foliage is a personal choice, some like it, some don't. It's also a good solution for a tree that has poor branch structure but good foliage mass. The foliage mass has a good triangular shape and the quiet Reddish Brown pot is a good choice to contrast with the bright Green foliage, they compliment each other in a subtle way. Where if it was a bright Red and bright Green it would be a dramatic Direct Complimentary color combination.

Harvey Carapella

Billboard is brought to you by:

President: Mark Arpag
bsunypresident@gmail.com

Co-editors & photographers:
Marti & Tom Macinski
mmacinski@mac.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: mmacinski@mac.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