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Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, October 24 7:00 pm BONSAI DEVELOPMENT & REFINEMENT

Three of our presidents - current President Marc Arpag, and past Presidents Harvey Carapella and Bill Valavanis - will present a demonstration at our October meeting on **Bonsai Development and Refinement**. These skilled and knowledgeable men 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 will share their techniques and thoughts.

Each artist will bring one of their bonsai from their private collections and will work on them at the same time. They will have different species, Eastern White Cedar, Sargent Juniper and Japanese Maple, of different styles and stages of development so all members will have the opportunity to watch, learn and ask questions as they develop and refine one of their bonsai. This is not a "How to Demo" where an artist talks and cuts up a large tree to make small bonsai. Rather each of our artists will bring in a bonsai which has been in training, some with decades of tender loving care, and share their techniques of how they personally work on their own bonsai. Sorry, the demo bonsai will not be raffled....

Additionally, each of our three past presidents will have an individual table to formally display one of their prized bonsai. They will explain, in detail, how they were developed and their own theory of formal display. This is a very unusual program which should interest all members. **Don't miss this learning opportunity!**



President's Message

Dear Friends,

We just completed our Club's support of the incredible 8th US National Bonsai Exhibition and once again thank you all !!!

With over 300 trees on display it is impossible to study them all but the photos by Joe Noga in the Exhibition Album allow us to study and learn in a manageable way. I have to call out Joe's Crew for a fantastic job this too!

Like it or not cool weather and the end of our season is upon us. Time to clean up your trees and make notes for the spring season. I am quite excited about our October meeting and you do not want to miss it, we three promise it will be very entertaining!

Mark

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

8th U.S. National Exhibition - a resounding success

It's a wrap. Another wonderful U.S. National Exhibition was very well attended and successful. The sales area was hopping, the critiques were super busy, and the demonstrations were fantastic.

Many, many, many thanks to Bill Valavanis for his vision, his leadership, his personal contacts with the world of bonsai people, his many sleepless nights putting all the information together, and his never-ending good humor through it all. And as always, Diane was involved in everything and ran the IBA Open House at the same time!

Many thanks also to so many of our club members for helping make this happen in so many ways. Mark Arpag, Bob Blankfield, Tom Macinski, & Darrell Youngman for setting up the entrance Welcome Garden. Dave Steele, Tom Macinski, Joe Lentner, Darrell Youngman, Richard West, John Wiessinger, Patrick Reilly, Bob Pfromm, Rick Marriott, Brian Whitcomb, Cameron Whitcomb, Harry Clark, Rob Krutchen, Will Hebert, Joe Moore and more for being table set up labor, then curtain hanging, structure building and more, all under the direction of Alan Adair and Jim Dolce. Alan Adair and Jim Dolce for memorizing the maps and directing the table, curtain and all aspects of the set up. Harvey Carapella for being everywhere, before the show with graphics, signage, overall planning and prep, and during set up and the show helping with set up, directions, auction and more. Diane Koretz, Christine Wilkolowski and Margaret Chochrane for endless ironing of the curtains. Lee Ann and Alex who came all the way from Washington DC to lend many hands for many days. Joe Noga, Club member and photographer extraordinaire, for driving up from North Carolina, bringing a trailer full of photography equipment, setting up a more than professional studio and dedicating himself to taking photos for 5 days straight. And the photo crew - talk about heavy lifting! Deb Chudlinski did nothing but move trees out and back for 5 entire days. Nick Steidl came close with four days. Dewey McLeod fit in a day and a half, using his vacation time. Wendy Mendola for all her help with registration and sign ins on Friday, and with check ins on Saturday. Les Allen brought companion plants from Erie, and helped with set up. Diane Koretz, Margaret Chochrane, Judith Trolley, Theresia Cassidy all for checking people in, keeping count as required and answering many questions and helping direct folks during the show itself. Ron Maggio handled publicity, organized the auction and sponsored the Suiseki award. Jason Henderberg, also a sponsor, did all the video for the 360 degree video tour of the exhibit. And then many extra special thanks to Richard West, Theresia Cassidy, Diane Koretz, Margaret Chochrane, Joe and Jean Lentner, Tom Macinski and more for sticking around on Sunday to take everything down, and then put it all back on Monday morning. If I've missed anyone, my apologies. Many more helped a bit - but most of the folks listed above did pretty much nothing else for the entire week of September 4 through September 11.

Special thanks to Theresia Cassidy for providing LOTS of pizza for the set up crews on Thursday and Friday from her family's restaurant Carbone's, delivering all the way from Greece.

There were many more, of course, including vendors, exhibitors and their friends and others who helped make the show a big success. But Club members did extra heavy lifting in so many ways - Thank YOU ALL very much!



This from Bill Valavanis: Check out this post and go to the end for the podcast. If you don't subscribe to the Bonsai Tonight blog, you should. It's free and is released most Fridays. The podcast is quite interesting. Apparently, all of us working together produce the best bonsai exhibition in the United States. Some said "east of the Mississippi River" and California, but we know better. I'm in full support of the Pacific Bonsai Expo held on alternate years from our exhibition. It's basically like our exhibition but has more west coast bonsai.

New Post on Bonsai Tonight: [Highlights from the 8th US National Bonsai Exhibition – part 1](#)

By Jonas Dupuich

Link to Jonas' blog - in case the link above doesn't work:

<https://bonsaitonight.com/2023/10/06/highlights-from-the-8th-us-national-bonsai-exhibition-part-1/>

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. Please, no gag gifts.

Our dues are increasing, but at a rate well below the inflation rate. 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:

- October 24 - 7 pm Bonsai Development and refinement. Led by President Mark Arpag, and Past Presidents Harvey Carapella and Bill Valavanis
- 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 Dwarf Spruce with workshop in the afternoon
- April 23 - Suthin Sukosolvisit with workshop in the afternoon
- 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/ not really Shohin Feature



NOT A SHOHIN BONSAI, BUT AN IMPORTANT COMMENT ON BONSAI BALANCE & DESIGN

The original bonsai tree in the upper photo is moving from Right to Left, the rock is clearly moving Left to Right. Obviously the creator of this composition doesn't mind the lack of harmony in movement between the tree and rock. There were probably going for the dramatic overhang, giving the feeling of a tree clinging to the edge of a cliff. That feeling was more important to them than a harmony of movement in the overall planting. The original planting in the top photo has a strong horizontal flow compared to the bottom photo, which has a strong vertical flow. I flipped the tree in the bottom photo to create a better harmony of movement between the tree and the rock. The tree and rock both are flowing from Left to Right, working together in harmony of movement. The tree still has an overhanging, clinging to the rock composition. Also, by switching the direction of the tree, the Focal Point is clearly the tree instead of the rock like it is in the original composition.

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: 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