

Billboard

Newsletter of The Bonsai Society of
Upstate New York



Martin Schmalenberg *Literati Bonsai*

This month it is our pleasure to have Martin Schmalenberg speak to us on Literati Bonsai.

Mr. Schmalenberg owns Stillwater Studio in Stillwater, NJ and is an Asian Studies teacher at Blair Academy. His experiences with bonsai started in 1972 studying on his own. Love of bonsai brought him to a bonsai convention in NYC in 1979 where he met William Valavanis who became a major influence on his bonsai pursuits.

Over the years Martin has studied in Japan with Hiroyoshi Yamaji, and Mikio Oshima and with many others in the United States. With an artist's eye, he has developed a wonderful style of his own firmly based on the art of Japanese masters. Martin has become a teacher of note. He has headlined in conventions all over the US with masters like Kimura in Detroit and teaches at many bonsai clubs as well as his Stillwater Studio that he started in 2001. At his studio he offers instruction and educational events as well as opportunities to work with world-class artists such as Salvatore Liberace, Nick Lenz and Boon Manakantivipart



**Marty working on a Hinoki
Cypress Rock Planting**

Literati can be a difficult style to understand. Mr. Schmalenberg will show us how to work with this difficult style. Don't miss out on this informative and interesting meeting.

We will be meeting at our new location in Buckland Park. Below is a link to a map if needed.

[http://www.northcoastbaseball.com/Field%20Directions/Buckland%](http://www.northcoastbaseball.com/Field%20Directions/Buckland%20Park)

Visit Our Website

<http://www.bonsai-upstateny.org/>

Meeting Date

**Tuesday
October 24, 2006**

7:00PM Meeting

**Brighton Town Lodge
at
Buckland Park
1341 Westfall Road
Rochester, New York
near corner of
Westfall and Clinton**

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Bonsai Display At Sonnenberg Gardens

Approximately 400 people visited Sonnenberg Gardens to celebrate the 100th anniversary of their Japanese Garden. We had a fine bonsai display in the carriage house and outside the tea house by our members. In addition to our bonsai, The Rochester Haiku Group, Ikebana International and The Oriental Garden Society presented programs, demonstrations and the traditional Japanese tea ceremony.

Thank you to the following who shared their bonsai with the public: Jim Dolce, Harvey Carapella, Will Hebert, Doug McDade, Marc Arpag, Wes Morningstar and Jerome Cushman. A special note of appreciation to Marc Arpag who coordinated the lovely event.



2006 - 2007 Programs

Oct. 24	Martin Schmalenberg from New Jersey, Literati Bonsai
Nov. 21	Bonsai Critique, Harvey Carapella and Jim Dolce
Dec. 12	Holiday Party and Auction Slides from Japan and Europe
Jan. 24	Dale Cochoy, Making Containers Afternoon workshop Evening Demonstration
Feb. 27	Harvey Carapella, Color In Bonsai
Mar. 15-18	Gardenscape, 2007 Bonsai Society Display
Mar. 27	Michael Hagedorn from Oregon Japanese Bonsai Study
Apr. 24	Bill Valavanis, Forest Bonsai and workshop with Dawn Redwood Lecture/Demo/Free Workshop
May 19-20	Upstate New York Bonsai 35th Anniversary Exhibit & Celebration Daily Lecture/Demo by Julian Adams
June 26	TBA
July 24	Garden Tour
Aug. 28	Garden Tour.
Sept. 10	TBA



Two excellent examples of a Literati Bonsai

Blossoming Bonsai Symposium Reception

Our society sponsored the Friday evening reception at the Blossoming Bonsai Symposium in early September. Over 100 registrants enjoyed the delicious goodies prepared by our members, the liquid refreshments and slide program showing our society's activities through out the years. Jim Dolce donated a bonsai for our raffle which brought in some funds to pay for the food.

A hearty thank you to all members who brought in the goodies, especially the chocolate desert. Also a thank you goes to the members who served the refreshments. And, last but not least, a special thank you to Rita and Jim Dolce who organized the event.

Also, thanks to Debbie Chludzinski, Debbie Flemming, Pat Hamm and Kathy Ver for their contributions to the Friday evening social and to our friends in Canada for the beverages they contributed.

On Saturday morning Bill Valavanis, sponsor of the symposium, thanked our society and presented us with a book for the library.



Kathy Shaner working on a crabapple bonsai

Surfing the Bonsai Web

Jon Robbins was kind enough to share this great website with us. It is essentially a diary or blog about a couples honeymoon in Japan and includes wonderful pictures of Japanese Gardens and Bonsai. Enjoy...

<http://ludicridius.wordpress.com/about/>

AUGUST GARDEN TOUR HIGHLIGHT

Approximately 50 members and friends enjoyed a delightful evening at the remarkable conifer and rare garden of member Jerry Kral. His garden is quite unique and full of rare conifers as well as other species. Jerry spoke to our group on the garden's development and future plans. Thank you Jerry for sharing your beautiful garden with our members. Perhaps we could schedule a "collecting trip" to his garden next summer?

September Highlights

Bonsai artist Kathy Shaner from California presented an excellent demonstration on Crabapple bonsai at our September meeting. She explained the growing and training techniques for Crabapples and answered every question asked. Her demonstration tree ended up totally different than expected, a cascade style. Between pruning and wiring and answering questions, Kathy spoke of her studies in Japan.

Approximately 50 members attended the meeting in our new location on Westfall Road. Bob Phromm was the lucky winner of the demonstration Crabapple. Iris Cohan won

It's That Time Of Year Again...

It's about time to start thinking about bringing tender bonsai indoors for the winter. I've been thinking about it all summer long, but it is still too early to bring them inside. Keep tender bonsai outdoors as long as possible without getting hit by a frost. It is a good idea to bring them inside for an evening when frost is expected, then put them outside again. The longer you keep them outdoors, the healthier they will be. When it is finally time to bring the tender indoor species in for the winter, don't forget to spray for pests. Remember to provide all the light possible. It is often beneficial to supplement with cool white florescent bulbs. Cool temperatures (45 - 60 F) are better than warm for most species. Extra humidity can be provided with trays filled with gravel (white marble chips if you want to be fancy) and water. Feeding should be reduced or eliminated for plants to be kept indoors for the winter. Over wintering care sheets will be available at the September meeting. Continue to fertilize your hardy, outdoor bonsai on a regular schedule, as you have been doing all summer, until late September or early October. I continue to feed with a high Nitrogen content fertilizer on a weekly schedule, especially on fruiting species. This is a good time to check the training wire on your bonsai, too, as the trunks might be getting fat and the wire may cut into the bark. Enjoy your bonsai during the last few weeks of summer. You know what is coming, because **it's that time of the year.....**

W.N.V.

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