

# Billboard

Newsletter of The Bonsai Society of  
Upstate New York



Visit Our NEW Website

<http://www.bsuny.org/>

## *Bill Valavanis* *Shohin Bonsai* *Lecture/Demo/Workshop*

### Meeting Date

After a brief business meeting, Bill Valavanis, internationally noted proclaimed bonsai artist, and past president of our club will present a program and workshop on creating Shohin Bonsai. Bill will discuss design, creation and care of these small works of art. Afterwards he will conduct a Shohin Bonsai workshop using miniature crape myrtle, a new unusual species trained for bonsai.

### March workshop

March's workshop will be held immediately following the lecture and demo and will feature miniature crape myrtle. These plants have lovely pink flowers in late summer. The workshop plants are already potted in ceramic containers, so all that will be done during the workshop is to prune, wire and shape.

Anyone who has attended one of Bill's lectures knows that they are always well prepared, educational and entertaining. He will offer a complete program before beginning the workshop, so plan to attend the presentation even if you will not participating in the workshop. Observers will be welcome during the workshop, but remember that attention will be given to paid participants. The shohin bonsai that Bill creates during his demo will be raffled that evening.

This is free to the first twenty members, but participants must pay for the plant material. The cost of the plants is \$45 and should be paid directly to the club with Ron Maggio at the workshop.

All members need to bring are tools, wire, and a box to work in. Please call Ron Maggio at 872-0382 to make your reservation for this special workshop. Members are welcome to stay and watch the workshop and as always, your payment reserves your

**Tuesday**  
**March 25, 2008**

**7:00PM Meeting**

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

**President**  
Harvey Carapella  
426-6548

**Billboard Editor**  
Dave Steele  
671-2438

[dstele1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dstele1@rochester.rr.com)

**Billboard Staff**  
Mark Arpag  
Irene Valavanis  
William Valavanis

## Election Time

At the March meeting we will be electing new society officers. During the business meeting, the candidates for the offices will be presented and voted on. If anyone has any nominations give one of the nominating committee a call and let them know. Just make sure the person you are nominating knows about it before you call.

### Nominating Committee

**Joe Galley, Chair**      334-9472  
**Karen Proctor**        235-0567  
**Wes Morningstar**      820-3244

## Spring Show Committee Meeting

There will be a spring show meeting on March 28th to discuss the upcoming spring show in May. The meeting will be at 8:00PM, at the residence of Bill Valavanis. This meeting will follow a board meeting at 7:00PM. Anyone interested in helping with the show in any aspects, give Bill a call (334-2595). For those interested, members are also welcome to attend the board meeting. Ask one of the board members for details.

## Thanks

A big thank you to Bill Valavanis' International Bonsai Arboretum for donating a new and valuable book on Suiseki to the clubs library. If you get a chance, take a look at it, and all the other great books our library has.

## 2008 Programs

March 13-16	GardenScape 2008
March 25	Wm. N. Valavanis Demo & Workshop Shohin Bonsai
April 22	Suthin Sukolosvisit Afternoon workshop/evening demo
May 17-18	Upstate New York Bonsai Exhibition
June 24	TBA
July 22	Garden Tour
August 26	Garden Tour

## April Workshop

The April workshop will be led by Suthin Sukolosvisit. He will be doing a "bring your own tree" workshop. This means that you bring some material that you would like to work on and he will help you find the masterpiece waiting to come out. He will also have a few trees for sale, but they will be limited. For more information and to make a reservation, please call Ron Maggio at 872-0382.

## Help Needed For GardenScape 2008

GardenScape 2008 will take place at the Dome Arena in Henrietta on March 13 to 16. Our society is again having a double booth display at GardenScape 2008. We need members to help answer questions and provide the public with information on bonsai and our society. Please see Wes Morningstar to schedule your time and help our society spread bonsai information to the public.

Also, we need fine quality flowering bonsai for the show. Please phone Bill Valavanis at 334-2595 (if you can find him) to offer your bonsai for the society display. We will be setting up our display on Tuesday, March 11th at 5 pm and need help. Also, we will be taking down the display on Sunday, March 16th at 5 pm and many hands make light work for everyone. More information about the show can be found at,

<http://www.rochesterflowershow.com/>

Hope to see you there. Please tell your friends.

### New GardenScape Procedure

This year, there will be no passes for people working at GardenScape. However, the Bonsai Society will be buying flower show tickets to distribute for the day to members signed up to work at the clubs exhibit. More details will follow as we get closer to the flower show.

## February Highlights

Approximately 35 members braved a winter storm to attend the February meeting and were rewarded with an outstanding lecture and demo by our President Harvey Carapella. Harvey also provided a rock planting tip and procedures handout with information provided by Bill Valavanis and Yuji Yoshimura. In his lecture Harvey spoke briefly about all types of Rock Planting Bonsai and brought fine examples from his personal collection to illustrate as well another handout that showed examples. The second handout provided a list of needed materials and methods of attaching wires to stones.

Harvey selected an excellent stone from his personal collection and donated it for the program. Dwarf Chinese Elms which had been in Bonsai containers were pre-wired and shaped before being carefully positioned and attached to the stone. Dwarf mondo grass and fresh moss were added with the attention to detail Harvey is famous for. The material used was quite ordinary but the final composition was a work of Art. Needless to say, a lot of raffle tickets were sold that night! Thanks Harvey for a great program on a seldom address subject.

## It's That Time Of Year Again...

I know it's hard to imagine, but in a few short weeks the buds on some of our bonsai will begin to swell. If your bonsai have swollen buds, it might be a good idea to lower the temperature if possible or change location. The longer you delay bud break the better, except when permanent dormancy sets in. If your bonsai are not frozen they will probably require watering. If they are frozen, keep a little clean snow packed around the soil surface. When the air temperature rises, some snow will melt and water the bonsai. With increased daylight fast approaching, additional moisture will be necessary. Indoor bonsai can now be lightly fertilized. Now is a good time to match bonsai with containers for spring transplanting. Conifers are usually planted in unglazed containers to present a quiet feeling. Broadleaf evergreens and deciduous species are generally planted in glazed containers to highlight the seasonal beauty of their flowers or autumn foliage. Unglazed containers come in more than one shade of "common" brown; they can also be found in gray, red and tan. There are many different shades and textures and the end finish can also vary widely, as can prices! Look through books from our extensive library for ideas on containers colors and shapes. Although many bonsai are planted in shallow containers, I prefer deeper pots because of our severe low temperatures. Although it is a bit early to begin transplanting, drastic pruning and wiring can be performed if the bonsai are kept above freezing afterward. A temperature of 35°F is ideal, but 27° - 30°F is fine. Start thinking about spring. It's just around the corner because **it's that time of the year again...**

W.N.V.

**Bonsai Society of Upstate New York  
P.O. Box 92215  
Rochester, New York 14692**

