

December
2021

Volume
51

Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



President's Message

Seasons Greetings Friends!

We will once again display Bonsai & Suiseki @ the Hungerford First Friday December 3. It is only one night for a few hours but it is exciting to share Bonsai with Artists and Art lovers in a unique space. It's fun to visit all the local Artists that have studios and small Galleries as well. Please bring friends & family and enjoy the start of our Holidays!

I am looking forward to our Holiday party as well and I hope everyone is generous with donations to our surprise auction and providing an appetizer or dessert to share as well.

We changed when our dues are due, now January 1st, so please plan to renew soon .

This New Year looks to be another great one!

Best Wishes for a safe, happy & healthy New Year for everyone! - Mark

This Friday, December 3rd First Friday at the Hungerford

This Friday, December 3rd, come and support your club at the First Friday event at the Hungerford Building. The address is 1115 E. Main Street and N. Goodman, Rochester 14609. Some of our club members will be displaying Bonsai trees and Suiseki. The Hungerford - "Rochester's most unique hub for local business, original art and handcrafted items" - presents a unique opportunity to do some holiday shopping and experience the cheer of the season. We hope to see you there!
(Note: the Hungerford does require masks)



NEXT MEETING

Tuesday December 14 at 6 p.m.
Holiday Party & Auction

Brighton Town Lodge at Buckland Park

We will enjoy having our Holiday Party again, although still not totally back to "normal". Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Rick Marriott will provide some special treats that are commercially prepared. It would be very helpful if you could let us know your plans to attend and bring food, with an email to the Billboard address: billboard@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org.

The Auction is a major fundraiser for our club, and helps support our programming, while keeping our dues low. Bring all those items you need to clean out, and let the club auction them off. All proceeds will benefit the club. *All items should be bonsai related, wrapped/boxed to be a mystery, and please - no gag gifts.*

The Brighton Town Lodge is at 1341 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY near the corner of Westfall and Clinton. Our fearless Refreshment Manager, Rick Marriott, will provide coffee, individual drinks and treats.

2021-2022 Programs:

- December 14 - 6 pm Holiday Party
Bring your auction items to raise money for the club, and your checkbooks to purchase those special donations from other members
- January 25 - 7 pm Mark Arpag, program on carving
6 pm Suiseki study group
- February 22 - 7 pm David Knittle Demo , with 2 workshops to make a table during the day.
See details and how to reserve on page 3 of the November Billboard. Space is limited.
No study group

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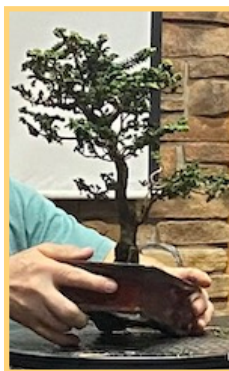
November Meeting - Design Studio



What a great meeting! Lots of trees, lots of advice, some comedy (unexpected), and general good camaraderie as members put themselves and their trees on the line. We had true expertise from our President Mark Arpag, along with Bob Blankfield and Jim Dolce. Their advice was not cursory - "cut here, wire this, and call me in the morning" - but was incredibly thoughtful, careful, analytical, and above all respectful of each of the trees and the members. At times there was good consensus

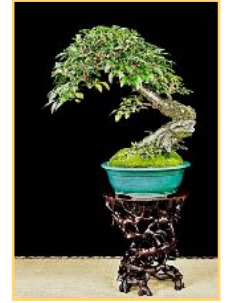


on everything from angle in the pot, branches to remove, type of pot. Other trees provoked some serious disagreement with markedly different recommendations. While this might appear to present problems for the members seeking advice, the overall advice was to listen and learn, then go home and think through the trees with all the advice in mind, but that ultimately, our trees are our own and we need to think for ourselves. Thanks to all the members who brought trees, and gratitude to Mark, Bob and Jim for their thoughtful instruction. We all learned a lot!



Shohin Study Group in November

Mark Arpag led us through some delightful Shohin Bonsai during the Study Group before our November meeting. The first, a forsythia in a Shuho pot, came from a root of a 90 year old forsythia, pictured to the right in the pot on the root stand. The Shohin bonsai is 8" tall, the parent forsythia is 16" high above the pot. The second example was a dwarf ficus sourced from Home Depot (for \$3.95). This and the next 4 are pictured from left to right below. The third Shohin bonsai is a 75 yr old collected Juniper. The next 3 are a very small Chinese elm (in the palm of the hand), then a spirea (also Home Depot nursery stock) and



a Zelkova. Those of us who were there are certainly inspired to work with more of these tiny, charming trees. Thanks Mark!



David Knittle table making workshops in February

David Knittle will be conducting two workshops during the day of our February 22nd meeting. The stands and tables will be prefinished. Participants will be assembling them and taking home a quality table that can be used in the highest level exhibitions. David will begin each session with a short description of how they were produced to get them ready for the assembly process.

There are morning and afternoon sessions still available, and those descriptions and pictures are shown below.

Participants will be given a choice on a first-to-register basis. The stands and tables vary in style, type of wood, size, details, and color tone. Please read the descriptions carefully.

Session One - morning. Participants will assemble a two level stand. David's mentor, Bill Valavanis, encouraged him years ago to make this style. Bill has one and says it is one of the most versatile and most often used in his studio. There are three versions available, all 31" x 8.5" x 12" high. The top shelf is 11" x 8.5". These can be used to display shohin or slightly larger bonsai.

Version 1 - 2 are available. This version is not pictured. It is identical in size to the one pictured (*right*) with pseudo bamboo details but without those carved details. Genuine mahogany with a medium dark brown finish. \$290



Version 3 - 2 are available, *see picture to left*. Walnut with pseudo bamboo carved details on the posts and shelf edges. Not pictured but with details similar to version 2. Dark rosewood finish, \$335

Session 2 - afternoon. Participants will assemble a single tree table.

The three different sizes and styles are appropriate for trees from shohin to chuhin bonsai. All are mortise and tenon, frame and floating panel construction. (Only version 1, below, is still available.)



Version 1 - 3 are available, *see picture to left*. 14" x 10" x 8" high. Walnut with a dark rosewood finish. \$200

To register for these workshops, pick your choice of table, and email Diane Koretz (treasurer@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org) to confirm your choice is still available, then send your check to Diane to confirm your spot.

SHOHIN BONSAI FEATURE OF THE MONTH



Mame Shohin Bonsai,
Japanese Flowering Quince

As you can see by the fingers we can classify this as an example of Extreme Mama Shohin Bonsai. The Japanese Flowering Quince is grown for the beautiful flowers not the fruit. The fruit is only about a third the size of the Chinese Quince, which also has a defoliating patchy and smoother bark. The Red/Orange (Vermillion) color flower and bud are the focal point. The Blue Green pot and the Vermillion flower and bud are a Split-Complimentary color combination creating a strong and striking color contrast. The trunk has a subtle taper, which is good for the small size of the tree.

Harvey Carapella

Dues notice for 2022

We'll be sending out dues notices early in January, and dues are due before January 31, 2022. When we get into February, we will be cleaning up the membership list and those who have not paid will no longer receive the Billboard. Thanks for your understanding.

Billboard is brought to you by:

President: Mark Arpag

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Co-editors & photographers:

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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:

billboard@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org

2021-2022 Programs:

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- March 29 - 7 pm Bill Valavanis Forest planting and demo, workshop during the day
No study group
 - April 26 - 7 pm Mark Fields Shohin Bonsai
 - May 24 - 7 pm TBD
 - June 21 - 6 pm Summer picnic and auction
No study groups
 - July 26 - 7 pm Bring your own Tree
 - August 23 - 7 pm Bring your own Tree
 - September 27 - 7 pm TBD
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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 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